

66



Department of State

POL 15-1 BIAFRA

TELEGRAM

AR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 841

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09638 051009Z

16

ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 20, IO 13, RSR 01, UCF 05, AID 28, CIAE 00, PM 05, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12, E 15,

SCS 04, SCA 01, COM 08, INT 06, AGR 20, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, /209 W
075891

P R 050845Z NOV 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9779
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSTRIKE
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 9638

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH OCTOBER 31

1. ALTHOUGH FULL TEXT NOT AVAILABLE, WE HAVE NOW SEEN
EXTENSIVE SUMMARY OJUKWU SPEECH AT AKOKWA, OCTOBER 31, TO

BIAFRAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (FBIS ITEM NO30620).

2. ON QUESTION PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, OJUKWU BASICALLY
REITERATED THEMES WE HAVE HEARD BEFORE: THAT "IF
NEGOTIATIONS WERE TO BE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
OAU, THEY MUST BE OUTSIDE THE TERMS OF THE EXISTING AND
PREJUDICED RESOLUTIONS OF SHAT ORGANIZATION"; THAT BIAFRA
HAD "LOST FAITH IN THE IMPOTENT AND SO-CALLED OAU
COMMITTEE ON THE NIGERIA-BIAFRA CONFLICT"; AND THAT A

CONFIDENTIAL

0304

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNARA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09638 051009Z

"CEASE-FIRE IS NECESSARY FOR REALLY MEANINGFUL TALKS".
(COMMENT: SUBSEQUENTLY, BIAFRAN GOVERNMENT "SPOKESMAN"
ISSUED PRESS STATEMENT THROUGH MARKPRESS--IN GENEVA 4003
NOTAL--WHICH SAYS SINCE BIAFRAN ATTACHMENT TO SOVERIGNTY
IS FUNCTIONAL AND NOT SENTIMENTAL, BIAFRA PREPARED TO ACCEPT,
AT SUGGESTION NO MATTER WHO, ANY ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT
THAT CAN GUARANTEE NON-RECURRENCE OF MASSACRES OF LAST 25
YEARS". LEAVING ASIDE EXAGGERATED CLAIM THAT THERE HAS
BEEN QUARTER-CENTURY OF MASSACRES, THIS LATER STATEMENT MAY
RPT MAY BE SIGNIFICANT, BUT COMING SO SOON AFTER OJUKWU'S
SPEECH, IT WOULD BE STRANGE FOR REBELS TO SIGNAL POLICY
CHANGE BY ANONYMOUS SPOKESMAN. WE BELIEVE FURTHER
INDICATION NEEDED BEFORE THIS CAN BE REGARDED AS MAJOR SHIFT,
THOUGH ITS VAGUENESS LEAVES PLENTY OF ROOM FOR MANEUVER.)

3. ON RELIEF, OJUKWU REPEATED THAT BIAFRA WOULD ACCEPT
PRINCIPLE OF DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS, "PROVIDED SHE WAS GIVEN
ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE GUARANTEES BY GOVERNMENT OR AN
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF A POLITICAL NATURE". SUCH
GUARANTEES SHOULD "CONTAIN SANCTIONS--MILITARY, POLITICAL
OR DIPLOMATIC", AND RELIEF SHOULD COME BOTH BY DAY AND NIGHT.

4. UNITED STATES WAS ATTACKED, ALONG WITH UK AND USSR, AS
AIDING FMG, AND MAKING OAU A "PAWN". OJUKWU THEN CALLED FOR
IMPLEMENTATION CROSS RIVER RELIEF SCHEME. SAYING PRESIDENT
NIXON "HAD ACKNOWLEDGED FACT OF GENOCIDE" EARLIER, OJUKWU
CALLED ON HIM "TO LIVE UP TO HIS WORD". (GENEVA 3999 NOTAL).

5. NEW ITEMS AT END OF SPEECH INDICATE APPARENT KIND OF
DIFFICULTIES BIAFRANS FACING. OJUKWU IMPLICITLY ADMITS
FUEL SITUATION BAD; SPEAKS OF "LINGERING DIFFICULTIES", WHICH
HE ATTRIBUTES TO DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, SINCE
LOCAL "COOKING POT" REFINERIES OF BIAFRAN INVENTION
PROVIDING SUFFICIENT POL. HE CLAIMS NEW LARGE REFINERIES
BEING BUILT TO REPLACE ONE LOST WHEN OZAIKOLI FELL. OJUKWU
ALSO ANNOUNCED NEW GOVERNMENT MACHINERY "TO INSURE FAIR
DISTRIBUTION OF SCARCE COMMODITIES SUCH AS SALT AND TOBACCO".
COMMODITIES WILL BE RATIONED AND SOLD AT CONTROLLED PRICES.
(COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC INDICATION OF RATIONING IN
REBEL AREA. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF DISSATISFACTION WITH
INEQUITIES IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND IMPORTED ITEMS.
AS SOME OF THESE WERE ACKNOWLEDGED PUBLICLY BY BIAFRANS,

CONFIDENTIAL

0305

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <i>VND 954503</i>
By <i>MM</i> NARA Date <i>10/5/03</i>



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09638 051009Z

THIS APPEARS TO BE A MEANS OF MEETING GRASS-ROOTS DISCONTENT.) HE ALSO CALLED FOR "REVIEW" OF LAND ARMY PROGRAM AND MORE COLLECTIVE FARMING, ESPECIALLY OF FOODSTUFFS. HE REMINED LISTENERS BIAFRA COULD NOT WIN WAR IF SHE DEPENDED ON RELIEF.

6. LAST TWO MINUTES OF SPEECH UNAVAILABLE TO FBIS, SO UNCERTAIN IF FINALE ONLY USUAL VALEDICTORY EXHORTATIONS.
GP-3:
TRUEHEART

CONFIDENTIAL

0306

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/03



Department of State

TELEGRAM

Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

XR Pol 15-1 Biafra

XR PET 11-2 Biafra

SECRET 1241

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01122 271040Z

20
ACTION: SS: 70

INFO OCT 01, SSO: 00, NSCE: 00, CCD: 00, DODE: 00, CIAE: 00, USIE: 00, 0711W
014979

PIR: 270865Z, OCT 69
FM: AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2912
INFO: USMISSION GENEVA

S EIC RENT LIBREVILLE 1122

LIMDIS

DEWEY FOR FERGUSON

SUBJECT: AKPAN MEETING

1. STOPPED BY CHIEF SECRETARY AKPAN'S HEAVILY GUARDED BARRICADED OFFICE IN OVERRI A.M. OCTOBER 25 TO SAY GOODBYE PRIOR MY DEPARTURE. HE WAS IN MIDST DRAFTING PORTION OF SPEECH FOR OJUKWU, PRESUMABLY TO USE AT CEREMONY ANNOUNCING HIS BOOK EVENING OCTOBER 26. SAID HE AND COOKEY FELT ACROSS RIVER ONLY VIABLE RELIEF ROUTE NOW. AKPAN HAD INSERTED STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT IN SPEECH. WAS MOST HOPEFUL OJUKWU WOULD USE IT.

2. AKPAN SAID ANOTHER VISITOR HAD ALSO INTERRUPTED HIS SPEECH-WRITING TREND OF THOUGHT THAT A.M. THIS ONE TO DISCUSS SERIOUS PETROL SITUATION. SAID IT HAD GROWN DESPERATE OVER LAST TWO WEEKS. HELD EMERGENCY MEETING LAST WEEK WHEN SEVERAL HAD BEEN SACKED AND NEW PLAN DEvised. PROBLEMS ADDRESSED INCLUDED:
A. LOW AVAILABILITY TANKERS TO HAUL FROM MAIN REFINERY AT OGUTA. 180 IN ORIGINAL FLEET. 18 KNOCKED OUT BY FMG AIR ACTION. OPERABILITY OF REMAINING 62 DANGEROUSLY LOW.

B. PROLIFERATION BACKYARD REFINERIES RESULTING IN LOW QUALITY FUEL DAMAGING EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF VEHICLES.

C. LOW PRODUCTIVITY OF 3 OFFICIAL REFINERIES. (AKPAN)

(3)

SECRET 23

Libreville 1122
10/27/69

0307

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

Pol 151 Biafra

RM/R	REP	AF
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
L	FBO	AID
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA

3
 20
 3
 34
 10
 3
 NSC 6

A-132

NO.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR RM USE ONLY

TO : Department of State

INFO : KADUNA, LAGOS

 RECEIVED
 SEP 23 2 00 PM '69

HANDLING INDICATOR

C155
RS/R
file

FROM : Amconsul IBADAN

DATE: September 19, 1969

SUBJECT: Psyching-Out Ojukwu

REF : Ibadan A-129

Pol 151 Biafra

As a footnote to Dr. Azikiwe's visit to Ibadan there is the curious anecdote which Zik is reported to have told Western State Military Governor Adebayo over lunch. Zik claims that at one point he had settled a dispute between Ojukwu and his father which had already reached the proportions where Ojukwu had threatened to shoot his father. The latter being a good friend of Zik's, he prevailed upon Ojukwu not to carry out his threat. Since then, Zik said, Ojukwu had been very unfriendly toward him; "perhaps I offended him by preventing him from shooting his father."

Such a tale seems peculiarly consistent with the story reported in the referenced airgram to the effect that Ojukwu was a bastard son, unrecognized in his childhood by his father, and later recognized only grudgingly and shipped off overseas.

The Consulate has no way of assessing the accuracy of either story but the fact that they are being circulated is itself rather interesting. They may be simply the sorts of yarns that partisans tell one another to bolster their conviction that their adversary is driven by unworthy motives and is a bastard to boot.

STRONG

 Exempt from automatic decontrol.
 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

GGay:gor 9/17/69

Contents and Classification Approved by:

CCStrong

Clearances:

0308

 DECLASSIFIED
 Authority VND 959503
 By MNARA Date 10/5/03



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 337

PAGE 01 IBADAN 00281 160900Z

19
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12, UCF 05, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03,

AID 28, ACDA 16, RSR 01, /149 W

024903

P R 151800Z SEP 69
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 902
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSUL KADUNA

CONFIDENTIAL IBADAN 281

SUBJECT: ZIK VISITS WESTERN NIGERIAN CAPITAL

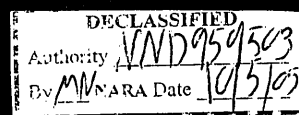
1. ZIK COMPLETED CURRENT TOUR OF STATE CAPITALS WITH SIX-HOUR VISIT TO IBADAN, WHILE THERE WAS GOOD TURN-OUT OF STATE COMMISSIONERS, OFFICIALS, TRADITIONAL LEADERS AND PRESS ON BOTH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AT AIRPORT, THERE WAS NO PUBLIC TURN-OUT EITHER THERE OR IN STREETS OF IBADAN. COUPLE OF HALF-HEARTED SHOUTS OF "ZEEK, ZEEK" AT AIRPORT, NONE IN CITY. ACCORDING TO OGBURGO, SECRETARY TO STATE MILGOV, (PROTECT) THERE WERE NO IBOS AT AIRPORT, THOUGH SEVERAL THOUSAND LIVE IN IBADAN AND LOCAL IBO LEADERS INVITED BE PRESENT.

2. ZIK WAS IN GOOD FORM AND HANDLED SPEECHES AND PRESS QUERIES WITH OLD DEFT TOUCH. HOWEVER, TOOK SLIGHT SIDE-SWIPE AT OMULOWO AG WHEN HE SAID: "I FIRMLY BELIEVE 12-STATE FEDERAL SYSTEM IS HERE TO STAY, UNLESS CERTAIN DIVISIONS ELECT TO FORM ADDITIONAL STATES."

3. IN EXPLAINING HIS EARLIER ACTIVITY IN SUPPORT OF OJUKWU, HE NOT ONLY REITERATED THAT IT WAS UNDER DURESS BUT EXPLAINED HIS INITIAL DECISION IN PERSONAL TERMS, I.E. HIS NAME WAS ON PROSCRIBED LIST OF IBO LEADERS IN SOME STATES, QUOTED IBO PROVERB THAT "IF YOU TELL MAN YOU ARE GOING TO DESTROY HIM, HE WILL RUN AS FAST AS HIS FEET WILL CARRY HIM."

CONFIDENTIAL

0309





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 IBADAN 00281 160900Z

RM ZIK DENIED HE HAD SAID HE INTENDED TAKE ROLE OF A VISER IN NEW NIGERIA. SAID FUTURE NOT IN HANDS HIS GENERATION. "WE LED NATION TO INDEPENDENCE AND MUST NOW DO WHAT NEW LEADERS WANT OF US. WE MAY BE ADVISER, FATHER FIGURE OR FORGOTTEN. CITING HIS PAST POSITIONS AS PRESIDENT OF SENATE AND OF COUNTRY, HE CLAIMED HIS ROLE HAD ALWAYS BEEN AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN PARTIES. HE IMPLIED HE WAS WILLING TO RESUME THAT ROLE. (ODUMOSU CLAIMED HE STARTED OUT BY DISCLAIMING POLITICAL AMBITIONS AND ENDED UP SUGGESTING HE WAS STILL AVAILABLE FOR PRESIDENCY.)

5. OTHERWISE ZIK SAID MANY OF SAME THINGS HE HAS SAID ELSEWHERE ON TOUR OF STATES. HE WOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS REASSURE IBOS THEY WOULD BE TREATED AS EQUALS, WITH RESPECT, IF THEY RETURN TO FEDERATION. WOULD ALSO, IF FMG REQUESTS, BE WILLING UNDERTAKE MISSION TO CONVINCE CERTAIN COUNTRIES THAT RECOGNITION REBELS NO LONGER SERVES PURPOSE IT DID WHEN FMG INTRANSIGENT. ON PEACE FORMULA SAID "WITHIN CONTEXT ONE NIGERIA WE SHOULD GIVE OJUKWU HONORABLE SETTLEMENT."

6. COMMENT: THOUGH WESTERN STATE OFFICIALS GAVE ZIK EFFUSIVE WELCOME YORUBA-STYLE, PARTICULARLY INFO COMMISSIONER ADISA, AN OLD NCNC POLITICIAN, THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO PUBLIC REACTION AND MANY OFFICIALS AND NEWSMEN EXPRESSED PRIVATE SKEPTICISM. ODUMOSU CRITICIZED HIS EFFORT TO RATIONALIZE HIS PREVIOUS SUPPORT OF "BIAFRAN" CAUSE AND SAID HIS EFFORTS CLAIM DURESS HAD COMPOUNDED HIS CREDIBILITY PROBLEM. IF HE HAD SIMPLY SAID HE HAD FORMERLY SUPPORTED SECESSION AS IN BEST INTERESTS OF IBOS BUT EVOLUTION OF SITUATION HAD CONVINCED HIM IT WAS NOT AND THAT HE NOW FELT BEST INTERESTS LAY IN RECONCILIATION, MANY IBOS AND NON-IBOS WOULD HAVE RESPECTED HIM. AS IT IS, HE NOT LIKELY HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE WITHIN NIGERIA OR "BIAFRA", THOUGH HE WILL HAVE HELPFUL INFLUENCE ON WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. SOME YORUBA CONTACTS THINK ZIK WILL ALSO HAVE USEFUL INFLUENCE ON IBOS OUTSIDE BIAFRA, PARTICULARLY ON THOSE ALREADY WAVERING. WHATEVER INFLUENCE HE MAY HAVE ELSEWHERE, ZIK IS HARDLY A HERO HERE, THOUGH SOME NCNC POLITICIANS MAY SEE HIM AS USEFUL COUNTERPOISE TO AWOLowo. GP-3.
STRONG
BT

CONFIDENTIAL

0310

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION

AF-5

RM	REP	AF
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
L	FBO	AID
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA
3	20	5
34	10	3
		NSC 6

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

POL 15-1 BIAFRA

FOR RM USE ONLY

A-129

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : KADUNA, LAGOS

FROM : Amconsul IBADAN

SUBJECT : What Makes Ojukwu Tick - A Yoruba Version

REF :

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 20 7 59 AM 1969
ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: September 11, 1969

1. In an informal conversation with me before he left to visit the United States, Richard Akinjide, well-known Ibadan Yoruba lawyer/politician (NNDP), gave me his explanation of Ojukwu's personality. Akinjide claims to have known Ojukwu well when he (Akinjide) was a Federal Minister in Lagos.

2. Akinjide believes Ojukwu suffers from a Hitler-like megalomania. His explanation is as follows: Ojukwu, he says, was rejected as a child. He was the child of a girl friend of his father and the father did not recognize him or take him into his home. Instead, he packed the mother and baby off to the North, where the mother made her living as a trader. When the boy began to grow up (age not specified), friends of Ojukwu's father prevailed upon him to recognize the boy as his son. He agreed to do so, but the boy was something of an embarrassment, so he sent him off to England to school. The boy continued his education there until he completed his university degree at Oxford - a mediocre degree in history.

3. On Ojukwu's return to Nigeria, he tried to get a job with the Nigerian Tobacco Company (NTC), but was turned down. (Akinjide speculated on how different Nigerian history might have been if NTC had given Ojukwu a job.) He then drifted into the civil service and was given a position as Assistant District Officer at a bush post in the East. He was unhappy in this position where he did not feel his talents were properly recognized. Seeking a better road to power and influence he joined the Nigerian Army and because of his good educational background was soon sent to Sandhurst. He thus joined the rather select few Sandhurst-trained officers in the Nigerian Army.

Exempt from automatic decontrol.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: CCStrong:gor 9/10/69

Contents and Classification Approved by: Acting DCM: Mr. Jones

Clearances:

William D. Jones

1969 SEP 20 AM 9 42

COPYFLO-PBR

0311

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VN10959503
By: MNARA Date: 10/5/05

Ibadan A-129

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2

4. Akinjide believes Ojukwu's career and personality can be explained as an endless effort to gain the recognition he was early denied and to show his father and the society that rejected him how wrong they were. In fact, Akinjide put it in more dramatic terms --that Ojukwu was sub-consciously seeking revenge for his early rejection. Akinjide also concludes that a man so driven is not subject to rational dissuasion from the course on which he has set himself.

5. Comment: While Akinjide's amateur psychoanalysis may not be very profound and obviously fits his own preconceptions, it is reported as the version of an intelligent Yoruba as to what makes "Biafra's" strong-willed leader tick.

2D for
STRONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0312

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 9501503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

31

Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria

SECRET

082

4/2 Pol 15-1 Biafra

PAGE 01 LONDON 05010 251951Z

89

ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, RSR 01, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01,

CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, UCF 05, L 03, DODE 00, /102 W
028500

R 251755Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1264
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ACCRA

S E C R E T LONDON: 5010

SUBJ: NIGERIA: EMPEROR WOULD LIKE TO SEE OJUKWU

1. FONOFF'S MAURICE FOLEY (PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECY) TELLS US THAT WHEN HAILE SELASSIE PASSED THROUGH LONDON RECENTLY HE EXPRESSED WISH THAT OJUKWU WOULD COME TO ADDIS TO DISCUSS PEACE SETTLEMENT. WHILE FOLEY IS CERTAIN IDEA IS NON-STARTER, PERIPATETIC BRITISH PHILANTHROPIST GROUP CAPT CHESHIRE IS ATTEMPTING CONTACT BIAFRAN REP MOJEKWU IN GENEVA TO OBTAIN OJUKWU'S REACTION.
ANNENBERG

*London-5010
6-25-69*

SECRET

19

0313

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

5/15/69
6-7-69

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 344

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05156 071831Z

87

ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, L 03, H 02,

P 04, INR 07, CIAE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, AID 28, UCF 05,

SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, NIC 01, NEA 13, UPW 01, RSR 01, 160 W
042374

P 071349Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7047
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY GENEVA
USMISSION USUN
AMCONSUL IBADAN POUCH
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE
DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION ONE OF TWO LAGOS 5156

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH OF MAY 31

REF: LAGOS 4956 (NOTAL) *Pol 15-1 BIAFRA*
SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, NIC 01, NEA 13, UPW 01, RSR 01, 160 W

1. EMBASSY HAS NOW RECEIVED FULL TEXT OF OJUKWU'S 2-1/2
HOUR SPEECH OF MAY 31 AND SUBMITS FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. ALTHOUGH THE SPEECH BEGINS WITH A SECTOR-BY-SECTOR
ACCOUNT OF THE CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION, THE MAJOR
THRUST OF THE SPEECH IS AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE A RATIONALE
AND JUSTIFICATION FOR REBELLION. NOTING THAT IT WAS
APPROPRIATE "TO TAKE STOCK," AFTER TWO YEARS OF WAR,

①

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

47

0314

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 9503
By MVA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 05156 071831Z

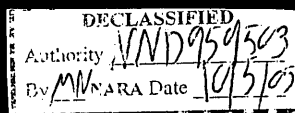
OJUKWU REPEATEDLY DEVELOPS THE THEME THAT "OUR DISABILITY IS RACIAL. THE ROOT CAUSE OF OUR PROBLEMS LIES IN THE FACT THAT WE ARE BLACK." CONSIDERING THE HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL SUPPORT IN RESPONSE TO BIAFRAN PROPAGANDA, THE LEVEL OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FLOWN IN, AND THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS, OJUKWU'S SPEECH IS ALMOST UNREAL AS HE OMITTS EVEN A PASSING REFERENCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, CARITAS OR FRENCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE. ONLY CURSORY PRAISE IS GIVEN TO "THE BRAVE AND PROUD PEOPLE OF TANZANIA, GABON, IVORY COAST, ZAMBIA AND HAITI" WHOSE GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECOGNIZED BIAFRA. OJUKWU SPEAKS PASSIONATELY OF THE BIAFRAN REBELLION AS "A MOVEMENT OF TRUE AND PATRIOTIC AFRICANS, OF AFRICAN NATIONALISM CONSCIOUS OF ITSELF AND FULLY AWARE OF THE POWERS WITH WHICH IT IS CONTENDING." DESPITE THIS EFFORT TO JUSTIFY THE REBELLION AS A MODERN, POSITIVE, PROGRESSIVE BLACK MOVEMENT AGAINST NEOCOLONIALISM FROM ABROAD AND HAUSA/FULANI "FUEDALISM" IN NIGERIA, THE TONE IS ESSENTIALLY DEFENSIVE AND INTROSPECTIVE. IN HIS EFFORTS TO FOSTER SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING THE WAR AND MAINTAINING SECESSION OJUKWU APPEALS AS MUCH TO FEAR AND XENOPHOBIA AS HE DOES

TO THE POSITIVE SIDE OF A "NEW SOCIETY" IN BIAFRA. AS NOTED IN REFTEL, HE CLAIMS THE WORLD HAS "LOOKED WITH INDIFFERENCE ON BIAFRA'S TROUBLE BECAUSE WE ARE BLACK", AND SAYS THAT "WHITE POWERS UPHELD NIGERIAN PROPOSALS ON RELIEF" SIMPLY TO GIVE NIGERIA SOME UNSPECIFIED "MILITARY ADVANTAGE". OJUKWU SEES THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR IN ALMOST CONSPIRATORIAL TERMS, E. G. HE DESCRIBES THE WAR AS "THE LATEST RECRUDESCENCE IN OUR TIME OF THE AGE-OLD STRUGGLE OF THE BLACKMAN FOR HIS TRUE STATURE OF MAN. WE ARE THE LATEST VICTIMS OF A WICKED COLLUSION BETWEEN THE THREE TRADITIONAL CURSES OF THE BLACKMAN: RACISM, ARAB-MUSLIM EXPANSIONISM AND WHITE ECONOMIC IMPERIALISM."

3. OJUKWU SPEAKS OF THE BIAFRAN POSITION AS "A POSITIVE COMMITMENT TO BUILDING A HEALTHY, DYNAMIC AND PROGRESSIVE STATE SUCH AS WOULD BE THE PRIDE OF BLACKMEN THE WORLD OVER". HE SEES THE BIAFRAN STRUGGLE AS "A MOVEMENT AGAINST RACIAL PREJUDICE, AGAINST THE TENDENCY TO REGARD THE BLACKMAN AS CULTURALLY, MORALLY, SPIRITUALLY, INTELLECTUALLY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0315





Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 05156 071831Z

AND PHYSICALLY INFERIOR". OJUKWU PUTS CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON THE CREATION OF A NEW SOCIETY IN BIAFRA, MOSTLY IN HORTATORY AND GENERALIZED TERMS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE CALLS SOCIAL JUSTICE A "CORNERSTONE" OF THE BIAFRAN REVOLUTION; CALLS FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL, EXPRESSES SPECIAL CONCERN FOR THE WEAK AND INFIRM AND REJECTS "SPECIAL PRIVILEGE" AND EXPLOITATION, BUT DOES NOT SPELL OUT WHAT THIS WOULD MEAN IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC POLICY OR PROGRAMS.

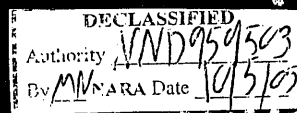
4. OJUKWU DWELLS AT LENGTH ON IDEA THAT ALL SOVEREIGNTY AND POWER BELONG TO THE PEOPLE AND THAT THOSE WHO EXERCISE POWER DO SO WITH MANDATE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE. SINCE POWER BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE, LEADERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE RIGHT "TO RENEW OR TERMINATE THEIR MANDATE" TO THE LEADERS. ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS "ARE ACCOUNTABLE AT ALL TIMES TO THE PEOPLE". AFTER CATEGORIZING THE VIRTUES WHICH A REVOLUTIONARY BIAFRAN LEADER SHOULD HAVE, OJUKWU SAYS THAT HE HIMSELF DOES NOT HAVE POWER BECAUSE "POWER IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BIAFRAN REVOLUTION BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE".

5. ON PROPERTY, OJUKWU SAYS THAT "IN THE NEW BIAFRA ALL PROPERTY BELONGS TO THE COMMUNITY. EVERY INDIVIDUAL MUST CONSIDER ALL HE HAS, WHETHER IN TALENT OR IN MATERIAL WEALTH AS BELONGING TO THE COMMUNITY FOR WHICH HE HOLDS IT IN TRUST. THIS PRINCIPLE DOES NOT RPT NOT MEAN THE ABOLITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, BUT IT IMPLIES THAT THE STATE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY CAN INTERVENE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY TO THE GREATER ADVANTAGE OF ALL". CONTINUING, HE SAYS "WHILE THE BIAFRAN REVOLUTION RESPECTS PRIVATE ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE AND INITIATIVE, I WILL REMAIN CONSTANTLY ALIVE TO THE DANGER OF SOME CITIZENS ACCUMULATING MASSIVE PRIVATE FORTUNES." AS A COROLLARY OJUKWU EMPHASIZES THE SOCIAL MOBILITY OF A NEW BIAFRA IN WHICH THERE WOULD BE NO CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS OR CLASS ANTAGONISM AND IN WHICH ANYONE "WHO WORKS HARD CAN RISE TO ANY HEIGHT".

6. OJUKWU FINDS THE INSTITUTIONS INHERITED FROM THE BRITISH "OLD, JADED AND RUSTED MACHINES CREAKING ALONG MOST INEFFECTUALLY AND DELAYING PROGRESS". HE FINDS IT SURPRISING, NOT THAT THESE INSTITUTIONS FAILED, BUT THAT THERE SHOULD BE BIAFRANS, AND SOME OF THEM VERY INTELLIGENT PEOPLE, WHO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0316





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

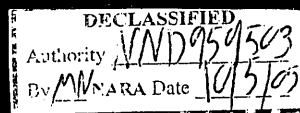
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 LAGOS 05156 071831Z

SIT BACK AND EXPECT GOOD RESULTS FROM THEM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE LEGISLATURE WHICH SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY INSTRUMENT FOR ASSERTING THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE, WAS TOO OFTEN IN THE PAST USED TO FRUSTRATE THE PEOPLE". OJUKWU SAYS THAT IN THE NEW BIAFRA THE LEGISLATURE "MUST BE CONSTITUTED TO REFLECT THE SPIRIT AND PRINCIPLES OF THE REVOLUTION", BUT BEYOND SAYING THAT A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE CANNOT ALSO BE A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE, HE GIVES NO CLUE TO WHAT THE NEW BIAFRAN LEGISLATURE WOULD LOOK LIKE. HE DOES SAY THAT "THERE WOULD BE AN EXECUTIVE LEADER ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE" AND THAT "PEOPLE SHOULD BE FREE TO VOTE AND BE VOTED FOR WHEREVER THEY LIVE IN BIAFRA".

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0317





Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 346

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05156 02 OF 02 071833Z

41
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, L 03, P 04,

INR 07, CIAE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, AID 28, UCF 05,

SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, NEA 13, UPW 01, RSR 01, 157 W
042391

P 071357Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY GENEVA
USMISSION USUN
AMCONSUL IBADAN POUCH
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSTRIKE
RUEOJFA/DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 LAGOS 5156

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH OF MAY 31

REF: LAGOS 4956 (NOTAL)

7. OJUKWU FINDS THE CIVIL SERVICE "TOO RIGID AND IMPRACTICAL",
BUT MAKES NO CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR ITS REFORMATION.

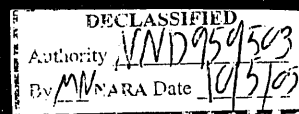
8. THE JUDICIARY WILL HAVE TO INTERPRET THE ROLE OF THE
REVOLUTION AND PROMOTE THE VALUES OF THE NEW ORDER. AGAIN
OJUKWU DEALS IN GENERALITIES.

9. OJUKWU CALLS FOR THE POLICE TO BE SCRUPULOUSLY HONEST.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

47

0318





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 05156 02 OF 02 071833Z

TRACING CHARGES OF CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY AND INEFFICIENCY IN THE PAST TO A "COLONIAL BEGINNING".

10. THE BIAFRAN ARMY IS TO HELP THE PEOPLE BUILD A NEW SOCIETY AND WILL SHARE WITH THE PEOPLE "THE BIAFRAN IDEOLOGY WHICH SUSTAINS THE REVOLUTION".

11. IN TERMS OF MANPOWER AND "DEFENSE OF THE REVOLUTION" OJUKWU PROPOSES "THAT EVERY CITIZEN WILL BE TRAINED IN TWO JOBS: HIS NORMAL OCCUPATION AND A DIFFERENT SKILL WHICH WILL BE CALLED INTO PLAY DURING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY". THUS A CLERK MIGHT ALSO BE TRAINED AS AN AMBULANCE DRIVER OR A LECTURER AS A POSTMASTER. HE PROPOSES THE CREATION OF A "NATIONAL ORIENTATION COLLEGE" TO INCULCATE BIAFRAN IDEOLOGY AND REVOLUTIONARY PRINCIPLES.

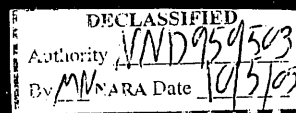
12. OJUKWU PROMISES ALL WORKERS A CHARTER, "THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICE FOR ALL CITIZENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE", SANITARIUMS, MATERNITY HOMES AND "A CLEAN POLLUTION-FREE ATMOSPHERE." HE SAYS IT WILL BE A PRIME DUTY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY FREE BIAFRAN SOCIETY TO "ERADICATE ILLITERACY AND TO GUARANTEE FREE EDUCATION TO ALL BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO A STAGE LIMITED ONLY BY THE EXISTING RESOURCES". (COMMENT: IN VIEW FACT BIAFRAN CHILDREN VIRTUALLY WITHOUT EDUCATION DURING LAST TWO YEARS, THIS PROMISE IS IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE EXISTING SITUATION.)

13. IN ASSESSING THE INJURY DONE BIAFRA BY THE WAR, OJUKWU CLAIMED 50,000 WERE "SLAUGHTERED LIKE CATTLE" IN 1966, ADDING THAT IN COURSE OF WAR "WELL OVER ONE MILLION OF US HAVE BEEN KILLED, YET THE WORLD IS UNIMPRESSED AND LOOKS ON IN INDIFFERENCE. (COMMENT: THIS IS THE HIGHEST FIGURE WE HAVE SEEN HIM USE FOR PRE-WAR DEATHS, AND THE ONE MILLION CLAIMED KILLED SINCE THE WAR BEGAN IS INCONSISTENT WITH HIS ASSERTION IN SAME SPEECH THAT 6,700 BIAFRANS HAVE BEEN KILLED DAILY SINCE JULY 6, 1967.)

14. OJUKWU CONCLUDES THAT "VICTORY" IS POSSIBLE FOR BIAFRA; THAT BIAFRANS "WILL FIGHT WITH ALL OUR MIGHT UNTIL BLACK MEN EVERYWHERE CAN POINT WITH PRIDE TO THIS REPUBLIC STANDING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0319





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

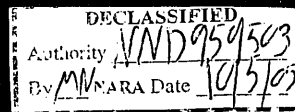
PAGE 03 LAGOS 05156 02 OF 02 071833Z

DIGNIFIED, DEFIANT, AN EXAMPLE OF AFRICAN NATIONALISM TRIUMPHANT OVER ITS MANY AGE-OLD ENEMIES." IN HIS FINALE HE SAYS THAT "GOD, HUMANITY AND HISTORY ARE ON OUR SIDE" AND THAT "THE BIAFRAN REVOLUTION IS INDESTRUCTIBLE AND ETERNAL."

15. WE NOTE THERE NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE US. WHILE WE WOULD EXPECT DENUNCIATIONS OF BRITISH AND SOVIETS, IT WOULD SEEM THAT OJUKWU HAS WRITTEN THE OAU OFF, CALLING IT AN "ORGANIZATION OF ARAB UNITY," WHICH REFUSED TO DISCUSS GENOCIDE AND WAS "INEPT" AS PEACEMAKER. THE SPEECH AS A WHOLE IS MORE NOTEWORTHY FOR RHETORIC AND GENERALITIES THAN SOLID PROPOSALS FOR THE "NEW BIAFRA." THE TONE WAS MARKEDLY MORE BITTER AND SPECIFIC IN ATTACKING THE ARABS IN THE OAU, RAISING THE RELIGIOUS ISSUE AND ABOVE ALL IN ASCRIBING ALL BIAFRA'S ILLS TO WESTERN RACISM. WE SURMISE THIS EXPLICABLE, AT LEAST IN PART, AS DEFENSIVE REACTION TO KILLING OF ITALIAN OILMEN, AN ISSUE OJUKWU UNDOUBTEDLY KNOWS HAS SET BACK REBEL CAUSE IN EUROPE. UNLIKE HIS SPEECH OF MAY 1, THERE WAS NO NOTE OF THANKS TO THE RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS, NOR ANY HINT OF WILLINGNESS TO REACH AN ACCOMODATION WITH FEDERAL NIGERIA. WE DO NOT CONCLUDE THAT THIS WAS A SPEECH OF TOTAL DESPERATION AND DESPAIR, FOR THE RETENTION OF OWERRI AND REBEL AIRSTRIKES HAVE PROBABLY BOLSTERED MORALE SOMEWHAT. HOWEVER, WE DO THINK THE TENOR OF THE SPEECH REFLECTS A GROWING FEELING OF ISOLATION AND POSSIBLY OF CONCERN ON THE PART OF ORDINARY BIAFRANS TO WHAT TWO YEARS OF FIGHTING HAS DONE FOR THEM, AND WHERE THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE IF THE WAR CONTNUES. OJUKWU HAS SKETCHED THE VAGUE OUTLINE OF A "NEW JERUSELAM" FOR THE REBELS, BUT THE RACIAL BITTERNESS AND SENSE OF ISOLATION WHICH CHARACTERIZE HIS MAIN THEME SEEM UNLIKELY TO PROVIDE MUCH COMFORT FOR INHABITANTS OF BELEAGUERED ENCLAVE THAT IS BIAFRA AFTER TWO YEARS OF WAR.
EXEMPT
OLSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0320





POL 15-1 BIAFRA
7 R POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 077

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04956 031442Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, UCF 05, SR 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 01, AID 28,

ACDA 16, NIC 01, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NEA 13, RSR 01, UPW 01, 184 W
008817

R 031110Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6932
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN 963
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSTRIKE
DIA

UNCLAS LAGOS 4956

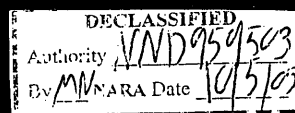
SUBJ: OJUKWU SPEECH OF MAY 31

FULL TEXT OJUKWU TWO-AND-ONE-HALF HOUR SPEECH OF MAY 31
STILL UNAVAILABLE, BUT FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS TAKEN FROM
WHAT WE HAVE:

1. DANGER OF IMMINENT MASS STARVATION OVER AND WE CAN
LOOK FORWARD TO PERIOD AFTER RAINS OF COMPARATIVE PLENTY.
INITIATIVE OF WAR NOW IN OUR HANDS. WE MUST NOT FLAG. GOAL
IS IN SIGHT.
2. WORLD HAS LOOKED WITH INDIFFERENCE ON BIAFRAS STRUGGLE
BECAUSE WE ARE BLACK. HAD WE BEEN WHITE, INHUMAN AND CRUEL
BLOCKADE WOULD LONG HAVE BEEN LIFTED. WHITE POWERS UPHELD
NIGERIAN PROPOSALS ON RELIEF KNOWING THESE PROPOSALS WOULD
GIVE NIGERIA MILITARY ADVANTAGE. NIGERIA HAS RECEIVED
COMPLETE SUPPORT FROM BRITAIN WHOSE HISTORY REPLETE

UNCLASSIFIED
23

0321





Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 04956 031442Z

WITH INSTANCES OF GENOCIDE.

3. WE ARE LATEST VICTIMS OF WICKED COLLUSION BETWEEN THE THREE TRADITIONAL CURSES OF THE BLACK MAN: RACISM, ARAB MUSLIM EXPANSIONISM, AND WHITE ECONOMIC IMPERIALISM. PLAYING SUBSIDIARY ROLE IN BOLSHEVIK RUSSIA, SEEKING PLACE IN AFRICAN SUN.

4. IN 1966 FIFTY THOUSAND BIAFRANS MASSACRED IN COLD BLOOD. SINCE JULY 6, 1967, SIXTY SEVEN HUNDRED BIAFRANS HAVE BEEN KILLED DAILY BY SHELLING, BOMBING, STRAFING AND STARVATION ADVISED, ORGANIZED AND SUPERVISED BY ANGLO-SAXON BRITAIN.

5. TODAY, BECAUSE HANDFUL OF WHITE MEN FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH ENEMY WERE CAUGHT BY OUR GALLANT TROOPS, ENTIRE WORLD THREATENS TO STOP. HOW MANY BLACK DEAD MADE ONE MISSING WHITE? MATHEMATICIANS, PLEASE ANSWER ME. IS IT INFINITY?

6. RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION GOOD FOR GREEKS IN 1822, BELGIANS IN 1830, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEANS AND IRISH AT END FIRST WORLD WAR. YET IT IS NOT GOOD FOR BIAFRANS. WE ARE WARNED AGAINST FRAGMENTATION AND BALKANIZATION. FEDERATION OF NIGERIA TODAY IS AS CORRUPT, AS UNPROGRESSIVE AND OPPRESSIVE AND IRREFORMABLE AS OTTOMAN EMPIRE WAS IN EASTERN EUROPE OVER A CENTURY AGO. WE ARE BEING FORCED TO SACRIFICE VERY EXISTENCE TO INTEGRITY OF THAT RAMSHACKLE CREATION THAT HAS NO JUSTIFICATION EITHER IN HISTORY OR FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES OF PEOPLE.

7. OUR STRUGGLE IN FUNDAMENTAL SENSE IS CULMINATION OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN NEGRO NATIONALISM AND WHITE IMPERIALISM.
OLSON

UNCLASSIFIED

23

0322

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MNARA
Date	10/5/05



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 374

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03951 061428Z

47

ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UCF 05, UPW 01, AID 28,

SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, /158 W

090005

R 061218Z MAY 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6383
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
RUTAF
/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1756
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 942
CINCSRIKE
DIA
STATE GRNC

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 3951

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH AT OWERRI

REF: LAGOS 3891; LAGOS 3889

1. WE UNDERSTAND FROM PRESS AGENCY SOURCES THAT OJUKWU DEPARTED FROM TEXT OF OWERRI SPEECH (LAGOS 3889) AS PUT OUT BY BIAFRAN PRESS SERVICE.

2. NOTHING APPARENTLY DELETED FROM ORIGINAL TEXT, AND MAJOR ADDITION WAS BIAFRAN DEMAND FOR CEASEFIRE, "OR FAILING THAT A TRUCE FOR A LIMITED PERIOD". OJUKWU SAID BIAFRAN DELEGATION AT MONROVIA SUGGESTED TWO-WEEK TRUCE.

CONFIDENTIAL

25

0323

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 03951 061428Z

3. IN ADDITIONAL ATTACK ON OAU OJUKWU SAID: "IT NOW ABSOLUTELY CLEAR FROM THIS LAST PERFORMANCE OF THE OAU COMMITTEE THAT THAT ORGANIZATION HAS FAILED. IT NEITHER HAS THE WILL NOR THE ABILITY TO BRING ABOUT PEACE".

4. OJUKWU THEN SUGGESTED THAT BIAFRANS AND FMG EACH "NOMINATE TWO OR THREE FRIENDS TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER ON THEIR BEHALF". HAILE SELASSIE SUGGESTED AS POSSIBLE CHAIRMAN FOR SUCH GROUP. (THIS APPARENTLY A DEVICE TO GET COUNTRY RECOGNIZING BIAFRA INTO PICTURE.)

5. APPEALING FOR ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE AFRICA TO END THE CIVIL WAR, OJUKWU SAID "AMERICA SHOULD CEASE TO LOOK AT THE PROBLEM MERELY IN TERMS OF RELIEF".

6. OJUKWU SAID BIAFRANS "REMAIN PREPARED TO REACH AN ACCOMMODATION WITH NIGERIA PROVIDED OUR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY ARE GUARANTEED, ALONG WITH AN INTERNAL PRESENCE. WE CANNOT EVER AGAIN ENTRUST OUR SECURITY TO THE HANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE AND CANNOT ACCEPT A SITUATION WHERE (AS IN THE PAST) WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO REACH DIRECTLY TO THE WORLD FOR A HEARING". OJUKWU THEN WENT ON TO SAY BIAFRANS HAD "NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE" UNTIL FMG IS "FINALLY COMPELLED TO ABANDON HER MILITARISM AND MANIACAL AMBITION".

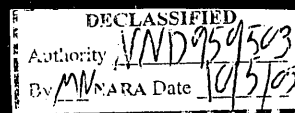
7. COMMENT: MAIN THRUST OF ADDITIONS TO SPEECH IS TO HARDEN PUBLIC NEGOTIATING POSITION, E.G. BY MAKING A CEASEFIRE OR TRUCE A PRE-CONDITION FOR TALKS. OJUKWU ALSO ELABORATED HIS DISENCHANTMENT WITH THE OAU. FINALLY, WE UNDERSTAND FROM REUTERS OFFICE HERE THAT THEIR BIAFRAN STRINGER IN ORLU HAS RECENTLY FILED A STORY SAYING ANY SPECULATION THAT BIAFRAN POSITION HAS SOFTENED SHOULD BE DISCOUNTED.

GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

25

0324



66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
TR POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 006

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03889 01 OF 02 031906Z

43
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, UCF 05, RSR 01, 158 W

078011

P 031329Z MAY 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6344
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 939
CINCSTRIKE
DIA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 3889

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDITON: SECTION INFO ONLY)

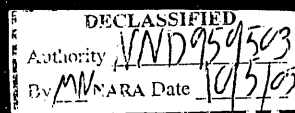
1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGH POINTS AND EXCERPTS FROM MAJOR ADDRESS
BY BIAFRAN LEADER OJUKWU TO JOINT MEETING OF ELDERS,
CHIEFS AND CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY. EXCERPTS TAKEN FROM BIAFRAN PRESS
SERVICE REPORT OF 1001 GMT MAY 2 (FBIS PUERTO RICO ITEM
021246Z).

2. OJUKWU WELCOMED AUDIENCE TO OWERRI, EXPRESSED VIEW "LAST
TWO WEEKS HAVE BEEN A MOST TRYING PERIOD IN OUR CURRENT
STRUGGLE. PERHAPS THE MOST SERIOUS EVENT OF THAT PERIOD WAS
THE ENEMYJS ENTRY INTO UMUHIA. WE HAVE FOR LONG BEEN AWARE

UNCLASSIFIED

23

0325





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 03889 01 OF 02 031906Z

OF THE ENEMY PREPARATION". THEN BLAMED BRITISH FOR FEDERAL DRIVE ON UMUAHIA WITH PARTICULAR VITUPERATION FOR PRIME MINISTER WILSON. OJUKWU SAID "ENTRY INTO UMUAHIA BY GOWONS VANDAL HORDES, NECESSITATED TEMPORARY EVACUATION OF TOWN, AND THIS FACT HAS BEEN FOR US A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. IT CERTAINLY WAS SEVERE TEST FOR OUR COURAGE, DETERMINATION".

3. IN ADMITTING "EXTREME DIFFICULTIES OF THE MOMENT", OJUKWU SAID "ONLY VERY FEW FLAGGED FOR THE GENERALITY OF OUR PEOPLE AND FIGHTING TROOPS, ENEMY'S ENTRY INTO UMUAHIA, FAR FROM CORRODING, ACTUALLY DID REINFORCE THEIR COURAGE AND DETERMINATION. THE LAGOS CLAIM THAT THEY ARE IN CONTROL OF UMUAHIA IS A MISCHIEVOUS LIE".

4. ON INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM OJUKWU SAID "ONE POINT WHICH IS WORTHY OF MENTION IS EXPOSURE TO WORLD OF DISHONESTY OF NIGERIA'S HIRED INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM. THESE

MEN CLAIMED, LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER THE ENEMY ENTRY INTO UMUAHIA, TO HAVE VISITED THE TOWN AND TO HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF BOMBING. HAD I STILL NOT BEEN IN UMUAHIA AT THE TIME, I WOULD HAVE BEEN TEMPTED TO BELIEVE THIS FALSE ASSERTION OF THEIRS. AS TO THEIR SEEING NO EVIDENCE OF BOMBING IN UMUAHIA, IT IS PERTINENT TO REMEMBER THAT IMPARTIAL OBSERVERS, MEN AND WOMEN OF FAR GREATER REPUTE THAN THE BOGUS OBSERVER TEAM, HAVE WITNESSED AND RECORDED THE DEVASTATION CAUSED BY THE BOMB RAIDS ON CIVILIAN POPULATION IN AND AROUND UMUAHIA. ONE SYMPATHIZES WITH THIS TEAM, SO LONG RESIDENT IN NIGERIA, IN THEIR BELIEF THAT THE BIAFRAN WOULD BEHAVE EXACTLY LIKE THE LAZY NIGERIAN WHO, IN LIKE CIRCUMSTANCES, WOULD LEAVE THEIR BOMB CRATERS UNREPAIRED, THEIR SICK AND WOUNDED UNATTENDED, AND THEIR DEAD UNBURIED IN ORDER TO PROVE THE DEVASTATION."

5. OJUKWU CALLED RECAPTURE OF OWERRI MILITARY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TURNING POINT IN REBELS FAVOR. HE SAID THREAT TO "OUR AIRPORT" HAS BEEN REMOVED.

6. REVIEWING WAR FRONTS, OJUKWU SAID ONITSHA/AWKA AREA QUIET, ATTACKS ON NNEWI ABANDONED, IN OKIGWE SECTOR FORCES FIGHTING AT OVIM RPT OVIM, AROUND AROCHUKWU AND AFIKPO AREAS "ENEMY

UNCLASSIFIED

23

0326

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 95/503
By MVA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 03889 01 OF 02 031906Z

HAS BEEN PINNED DOWN" AND IKOT EKPENE SECTOR "QUIET".
907(27 J-8\$ 13\$34-1)J "STILL IN ABA, BUT THEY KNOW THAT THEY
DO NOT HAVE MUCH LONGER TO REMAIN THERE".

7. SUPPLY POSITION SAID TO BE "STABLE AND IMPROVING". BRITISH
PROPAGANDA SAID TO BE AIMED AT EMBARRASSING FRANCE, "WHICH
HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED SUPPLYING US WITH ARMS". "BE
THAT AS IT MAY, SINCE BRITAIN NOW FEELS THAT FRANCE NO LONGER
SUPPLIES US WITH ARMS, SHE SHOULD TAKE THE HONORABLE STEP
OF FOLLOWING THE FRENCH EXAMPLE BY STOPPING THE SUPPLY OF
ARMS TO NIGERIA".

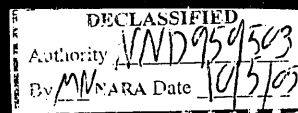
8. CONTINUING ATTACK ON BRITISH, OJUKWU SAID, "I EMPHASIZE
HERE THAT MR. WILSON NEVER INTENDED TO MEET ME EXCEPT AS A
NIGERIAN PRISONER OF WAR. HIS VISIT TO LAGOS WAS PRINCIPALLY
TO REDUCE RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN LAGOS AND TO RE-ESTABLISH BRITISH
INFLUENCE, TO SOOTH U.S. WORRY OVER THE MARRIAGE OF
RUSSIA IN THIS PART OF AFRICA WITH U.K., TO ENABLE HIM
TO HAVE A PERSONAL APPRAISAL OF THE MILITARY SITUATION ON
THE SPOT AND TO DISCUSS WITH THE NIGERIAN JUNTA WHAT
FURTHER SUPPORT THEY NEEDED IN ORDER TO EFFECT THEIR POLICY
OF QUICK KILL".

9. TURNING TO OAU MONROVIA MEETING, OJUKWU HAD HIGH PRAISE
FOR DELEGATION LEADER JUSTICE MBANEFO. OAU ADMIN
SECRETARY-GENERAL, DIALLO TELLI, CALLED BY OJUKWU "THE REAL
OBSTACLE TO A REALISTIC APPROACH" WHO EMPHASIZED "DESTRUCTIVE
AND UNHELPFUL INFLUENCE" WHICH "EVIDENT ON ALL OCCASIONS
WHEN THE OAU HAS TRIED TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS OF THE CURRENT
WAR. SO ABSOLUTELY AND PREJUDICIALLY COMMITTED TO THE
NIGERIAN CAUSE IS DIALLO TELLI THAT HE SOMETIMES SEEMS MORE
PRO-NIGERIA THAN THE NIGERIANS THEMSELVES".
MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

23

0327





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 012

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03889 02 OF 02 031918Z

43
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00,
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, UPW 01, UCF 05, RSR 01, /158 W

078026

P 031329Z MAY 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 939
CINCSRIKE
DIA
STATE GRNC

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 LAGOS 3889

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH

10. OJUKWU QUOTES TUBMAN LETTER STATING PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS
"TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER TALKS BETWEEN BOTH
PARTIES IN THE NIGERIA/BIAFRA CONFLICT WITHOUT PRE-CONDITION
(WORDS INDISTINCT) AGENDA". OJUKWU SAID BIAFRAN DELEGATION
WENT TO MONROVIA "TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER TALKS WITH
NIGERIA WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS". BIAFRANS ALLEGEDLY SURPRISED
TO FIND OAU FINAL PROPOSAL "WENT QUITE CONTRARY TO WHAT HAD
BEEN GIVEN OUT AS THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING. IT IMPOSED THE
CONDITION THAT OUR PEOPLE MUST ACCEPT THE NIGERIAN POSITION BY
RENOUCING OUR SOVEREIGNTY, OR WHAT THEY CALL SECESSION,
BEFORE THERE COULD BE A CEASE-FIRE AND (WORD INDISTINCT)".

UNCLASSIFIED

76

0328

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 03889 02 OF 02 031918Z

THE TERMS "UNITED NIGERIA" AND "CITIZENS" CONTAINED IN THE OAU COMMITTEE PROPOSALS MEAN NOTHING ELSE, BUT IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE OAU PROPOSALS SPOKE OF GUARANTEES (WORDS INDISTINCT) CLEARLY ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE POINT WE HAVE ALWAYS STRESSED, THAT WE ARE A WRONGED PEOPLE FOR WHOM GUARANTEES HOLD OUT NO PROSPECTS OF SECURITY". OJUKWU SAID, "TO ACCEPT THE OAU COMMITTEE PROPOSALS AS OFFERED WOULD MEAN OUR ACCEPTANCE OF NIGERIAJS AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT THE PRESENT CONFLICT IS AN INTERNAL PROBLEM. IT WOULD MEAN A SURRENDER TO NIGERIA". OJUKWU SAID LAGOS UNINTERESTED IN PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT AND STILL POISED FOR MILITARY SOLUTION.

11. BIAFRA SAID TO BE "WILLING TO ENTER INTO MEANINGFUL PEACEFUL TALKS WITH NIGERIA WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS". THIS OFFERS BEST POSSIBILITY RESOLVE CONFLICT. IN DEFINING WHAT IS MEANT BY TALK WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS, OJUKWU SAID "WE SHALL NOT EXPECT GOWON TO ACCEPT FACT OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CONFERENCE TABLE. WE SAY THAT BIAFRA IS SOVEREIGN AND NO LONGER PART OF NIGERIA. LET GOWON AND THE WORLD ALLOW US THE RIGHT TO SAY NO, AND NOT EXPECT US TO RECENT OUR POSITION, BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE. AT THE CONFERENCE, WE SHALL PUT FORWARD AND DISCUSS OUR POSITIONS AND WHATEVER COMES OUT OF SUCH DISCUSSIONS WILL BE THE FACTUAL POSITION".

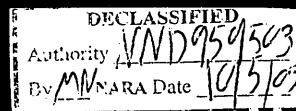
12. OJUKWU CALLED WAR "AN IMPERIALIST WAR, WAGED BY BRITAIN AND RUSSIA IN AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE AND WITH THE TACIT ACQUIESCENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND FOUGHT BY PROXY. THE NIGERIANS ARE MERELY TOOLS DESERVING NOT OF HATRED BUT PITY".

13. TOUCHING ON POSSIBLE MORALE PROBLEMS, OJUKWU SAID "SHOULD WE BE DEFEATED, GOD FORBID, IT WOULD BE BY OUR OWN LAXITY IN RESOLVE AND ONENESS OF PURPOSE. I SAY THIS TO WARN AGAINST THE RELAXATION OF OUR VIGILANCE. AN ENEMY HELL-BENT ON OUR TOTAL DESTRUCTION WOULD NOT HAVE QUALMS IN EMPLOYING THE SUBTLE MANEUVERS OF SUBVERSION. AS IN THE PAST, WE MUST NOT ALLOW SUCH MANEUVERS TO SUCCEED".

14. READVERTING TO OAU HE SAID THIS IS "ORGANIZATION NOT RPT NOT A CAPABLE AND TO A CERTAIN DEGREE NOT INTERESTED IN SOLVING PROBLEMS OF (THIS) MAGNITUDE".

UNCLASSIFIED

0329





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 03889 02 OF 02 031918Z

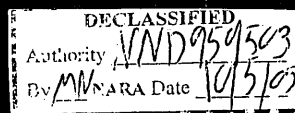
15. OJUKWU REPEATED FEDERALS BENT ON FIGHTING AND WHAT HE COULD SEE NO ALTERNATIVE TO SOLUTION EXCEPT IN CONTEXT OF "FREE, SECURE BIAFRA". HE REJECTED FURTHER TALKS WITHOUT PRIOR RECOGNITION BIAFRAN SOVEREIGNTY, SAYING IF THIS REJECTED HE WOULD FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN THE LAST INCH AND UNTIL BIAFRANS LEFT ALONE.

16. OJUKWU CONCLUDED WITH EMOTIONAL PERORATION DAMMING BBC AND "OTHER MEGAPHONES OF IMPERIALISM" AND SALUTING GALLANT BIAFRAN FORCES. HE CALLED ON ALL TO MARCH FORWARD TOGETHER TO AN ASSURED FUTURE, SAYING HE SAW EMERGENCE STRONG AND PROSPEROUS BIAFRA. "I SEE THE DARKNESS OF THE PAST. I SEE THE GOLDEN DAWN, THE RISING SUN (TRENDING) THE FIRMAMENT, PURE AND BRIGHT, EMERGING FROM THE (GARBLE) OF AN OPPRESSED PAST TO THE GLORY OF AFRICA, YEA, TO THE GLORY OF BLACKMEN EVERYWHERE. OH GOD, HELP US SEE THE REAL VALUE OF OUR WORK".

MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

0330





POL 7 UK
POL 151 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 421

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02813 302123Z

85
ACTION SS 70

INFO SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, /070 W
----- 004979

O 302030Z MAR 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5747
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2813

SUBJ: UKPM WILSON AND OJUKWU

LIMDIS

1. UK HICOM INFORMS THAT GOWON TODAY ACQUIESCED IN HMG ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE WILSON-OJUKWU MEETING OUTSIDE NIGERIA. WILSON UNDERTOOK TO MAKE CLEAR TO OJUKWU THAT MEETING WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE OR FORECAST RECOGNITION OR ANY OTHER CHANGE IN HMG POLICY OF SUPPORT OF NFG. WILSON TOLD GOWON HE WOULD URGE OJUKWU TO COOPERATE IN DAY FLIGHTS AND SURFACE ROUTES FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES AND TO FACE REALITIES AND BEGIN UNCONDITIONAL TALKS WITH FMG. WILSON EMPHASIZED HE WOULD NOT ACCEPT ROLE OF MEDIATOR.

2. WIPPON HAS SENT MESSAGE TO OJUKWU OFFERING TO MEET AT ANY ONE OF ELEVEN AFRICAN SITES BETWEEN MARCH 31 AND APRIL 2 (WILSON MUST BE IN LONDON APRIL 3). WILSON IS PROPOSING AND PREFERS ADDIS. HE HAS ALSO TOLD OJUKWU THAT HE WILL ACCOMMODATE TO LATTER'S WISHES AS TO SIZE OF HMG TEAM AT MEETING.

3. EARLIER PROPOSALS THAT FOLAMY AND MACDONALD MIGHT ENTER BIAFRA TO SEE OJUKWU WERE DROPPED BY WILSON AND NEVER PUT TO FMG.

4. BRITISH ARE PLEASED AT OUTCOME OF WILSON VISIT WHICH THEY BELIEVE HAS STRENGTHENED FMG CONFIDENCE IN HMG.

MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

0331

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD959503
By MNA Date 10/5/03

66



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 720

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01847 031256Z

53
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, NIC 01, SR 01, ORM 03,

RSR 01, ACDA 16, /162 W

094800

P R 031122Z MAR 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5238
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE
DIA

UNCLAS LAGOS 1847

SUBJECT: OJUKWU STATEMENT ON AMERICAN QTE PEACE INITIATIVE UNQTE

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED PARTIAL TEXT (FBIS ITEM C261901) OF
OJUKWU STATEMENT APPARENTLY MADE ON FEB 26, AS CARRIED BY
PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH.

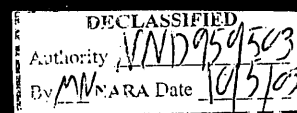
2. WHEN ASKED WHAT BIAFRA DOING TO COUNTER FMG AIRSTRIKES,
OJUKWU REPORTEDLY SAID, QTE WE ARE SPENDING A LOT OF MONEY ON
ANTI-AIRCRAFT CAPABILITY. OUR PEOPLE ARE ALSO BUILDING
TRENCHES UNQTE.

3. IN ANOTHER APPEAL FOR QTE AN AMERICAN PEACE INITIATIVE
UNQTE, HE SAID, ACCORDING AFP, QTE THERE WERE THREE COUNTRIES
--FRANCE, BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES--WHICH HAD INFLUENCE

UNCLASSIFIED

29

0332



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITHDRAWAL CARD NO. 104 POC 49-8

DATE: 2-18-69 MSG NO.: A-100 TYPE: Airgram
FROM: Lago TO: Dept
SUBJECT: Biographic Reporting
DOCUMENT ORIGINATOR: DEPT. OF STATE: X OTHER: _____

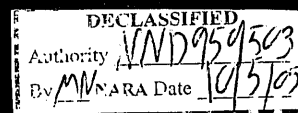
BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL:

X CONTAINS NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
____ OTHER LAW OR REGULATION

W
I
T
H
D
R
A
W
A
L

N
O
T
I
C
E

0333





POL 15-1 BIAFRA
TR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 036

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01363 131817Z

50
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, SSN 00,

NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, ACDA 16, /155 W
----- 122870

P R 131740Z FEB 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4974
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 1363

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SAYS US MEDIATION OF NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR
POSSIBLE

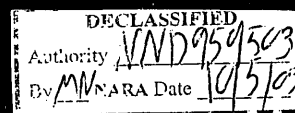
1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FBIS ITEM (VIA PUERTO RICO FBIS)
QUOTING AFP, UMUHIA ON FEBRUARY 12, IN WHICH IT REPORTED
OJUKWU SAID THAT NIXON ADMINISTRATION, QTE PROVIDING
IT ACTED PROMPTLY UNQTE, COULD ACT AS MEDIATOR IN
NIGERIAN-BIAFRAN WAR. AS STRONGEST POWER IN WORLD, OJUKWU
SAID US COULD BRING QTE A LOT OF INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON
WESTERN POWERS UNQTE.

2. WHEN HE SPOKE OF A QTE COMMONWEALTH UNQTE ARRANGEMENT,
WHAT HE MEANT WAS SOMETHING QTE VERY MUCH LIKE THE BRITISH
COMMONWEALTH UNQTE. THIS COULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO BOTH
NIGERIA AND BIAFRA. OJUKWU SAID QTE WIDE AREA OF COOPERATION
EXISTS UNQTE, AND THAT QTE WE CANNOT WALK AWAY FROM
SEVENTY YEARS OF ASSOCIATION. UNQTE

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE DIRECT REFERENCE TO US
MEDIATION IS NEW, IT IN SAME VEIN AS PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS
FROM OJUKWU THAT CANADIANS, SCANDINAVIANS COULD BE HELPFUL,
ALTHOUGH OBJECTIVE WAS SECURING INDEPENDENCE BIAFRA. THAT
IS ALSO WHAT HE APPARENTLY MEANS BY THIS LATEST REFERENCE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
27

0334





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01363 131817Z

QTE: COMMONWEALTH UNQTE RELATIONSHIP--TWO SEPARATE
INDEPENDENT STATES.
DECON: ONE YEAR
MATHEWS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

27

0335

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VN12959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

1-24-69
666

CONFIDENTIAL 957

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00666 241741Z

51 S
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, SR 01, ACDA 16,

INR 07, CIAE 00, NSA 02, L 03, RSR 01, 113 W

005575

R 241642Z JAN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4600
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 666

SUBJ: JAMES GRIFFITHS COMMENTS ON OJUKWU AND HIS
INTERNAL POLITICAL POSITION

REF: LAGOS 619 NOTAL

*PM 27-14 Biafra
XR POL 15-1 Biafra*

1. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED FROM UK HIGH COMMISSIONER LAGOS (PROTECT) COPY OF LETTER DATED JANUARY 3 FROM PM'S OFFICE TO FO RECORDING CONVERSATION WITH PM OF LORD BROCKWAY AND JAMES GRIFFITHS AFTER THEIR RETURN TO UK FROM VISITS TO BOTH REBELS AND FMG. IN DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITIES OF ARRANGING MEETING BETWEEN OJUKWU AND GOWON, BOTH BROCKWAY AND GRIFFITHS INSISTED THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A MEETING BECAUSE OF GOWON'S HOSTILITY TOWARD OJUKWU AND OJUKWU'S BELIEF THAT IF HIS LIFE WOULD BE IN DANGER IF HE ALLOWED HIMSELF INTO FMG HANDS AT ANY TIME. MOST INTERESTING OPINION WAS THEN ADDED BY GRIFFITHS THAT QTE HE BELIEVED OJUKWU WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO LEAVE BIAFRA FOR FEAR OF COUP AGAINST HIM BY SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES UNQTE.

2. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF BANDA COMMENT (REFTEL) WHICH BRITISH HICOMER BELIEVED REFLECTED AZIKIWE'S VIEWS, THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

31

0336

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 00666 241741Z

OJUKWU QTE HAD TO FIGHT IN ORDER TO STAY ALIVE...FOR ONLY
IBO MILITARY NOW FOLLOWED HIM UNQTE, APPEARS POSSIBLE THAT
OJUKWU MAY HAVE WORKED HIMSELF INTO CORNER WHERE HE
MIGHT NOT BE ABLE NEGOTIATE ANY REALISTIC SETTLEMENT WITH
FMG FOR FEAR OF EITHER BEING OVERTHROWN OR EVEN PHYSICALLY
ELIMINATED.

GP-1
MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL
3/

0337

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/03



Department of State

POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 15-1 BIAFRA
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 989

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00619 231722Z

40
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, SR 01, ACDA 16,

INR 07, CIAE 00, L 03, OODE 00, RSR 01, /111 W

129358

R 231415Z JAN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4570
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBAOAN

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 619

SUBJ: AZIKIWE'S STATEMENTS ON OJUKWU'S POSITION AND CIVIL WAR

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEGRAM FROM BRITISH HICOM IN MALAWI,
PASSED TO US BY BRITISH HICOM LAGOS (PROTECT):

A. QUOTE PRESIDENT (BANDA) TOLD ME (UK HICOMER) IN STRICT
CONFIDENCE TODAY THAT HE HAD IN FACT SEEN AZIKIWE WHO WAS
WHOLLY IN FAVOUR OF ENDING CONFLICT AND WOULD INDEED BY NOW
HAVE MADE COMMON CAUSE WITH NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT IF IT WERE
NOT THAT HIS SON, WHO HAD BEEN WOUNDED IN A BOMBING INCIDENT,
HAD BEEN KEPT IN BIAFRA BY OJUKWU DESPITE APPEALS FOR HIM
TO BE ALLOWED TO COME TO LONDON FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT, AND
WAS CLEARLY BEING HELD AS HOSTAGE. AZIKIWE HAD ALSO SAID
THAT THIS UNFORTUNATE CONFLICT WOULD HAVE BEEN ENDED IN
AUGUST IF THE FRENCH HAD NOT STARTED TO SUPPLY ARMS AND
TO ALLOW FACILITIES FOR CZECH AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN
WEAPONS TO BE SENT TO IBOS THROUGH GABON AND OTHER PLACES.

B. DR. BANDA WAS, I THINK, REFLECTING AZIKIWE'S VIEW

CONFIDENTIAL
23

0338

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

Pal 15-1 Biafra
XR Pal 16 Biafra
XR Pal 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria

UNCLASSIFIED 542

PAGE 01 USUN N 00002 01 OF 03 021937Z

44

ACTION AF 16

INFO ID 13, EUR 15, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCD 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSI 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, ACDA 16, SCSE 00, SCA 01, E 15, PC 04, RSR 01,

SAH 02, ARA 08, NEA 13, EA 10, /199 W

018830

O R 021821Z JAN 69 ZFF4

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5659

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 USUN 002

SUBJ: OJUKWU'S NEW YEAR'S DAY STATEMENT

FOL IS TEXT OF COL. OJUKWU'S (BIAFRA) NEW YEAR'S DAY STATEMENT:

PROUD AND PATRIOTIC BIAFRANS, FELLOW COUNTRYMEN AND WOMEN,
I SALUTE YOU (EXCLAMATION SIGN)

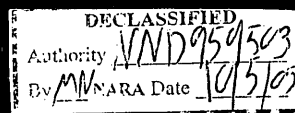
WE HAVE SURVIVED YET ANOTHER YEAR OF WAR AS A NATION. IT HAS
BEEN A YEAR OF ANXIOUS MOMENTS FOR US ALL.

WE STARTED THE YEAR 1968 WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE A BLEAK
FUTURE. BLOCKADED AND BESIEGED, WE APPEARED FRIENDLESS,
ISOLATED AND ALONE. OUR ADVERSARIES, IN SPITE OF THE PREVIOUS
FAILURES TO MEET THEIR DEADLINES OF DESTRUCTION, HAD SET 31ST
MARCH, 1968 AS THE DAY BY WHICH BIAFRA WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTER-
MINATED AS A NATION. THE WORLD WHICH KNEW ALL THE PREPARA-
TIONS AND THE EXTERNAL SUPPORT AT THEIR DISPOSAL, BELIEVED
THEM. WHILE GOWON AND HIS JUNTA BOASTED, OUR PEOPLE REMAINED
UNDAUNTED IN SPIRIT AND UNSHAKEN IN THEIR DETERMINATION TO
SURVIVE. WITH OUR ARMED FORCES ILL-EQUIPPED AND OUT-NUMBERED,

RECEIVED BY 02/6

UNCLASSIFIED

0339





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00002 01 OF 03 021937Z

WE STOOD FIRM IN FAITH. IN THIS WAY WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FRUSTRATE THE EVIL DESIGNS OF THE ENEMY. A SMALL AND UNARMED PEOPLE, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE MIGHT OF AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE OF NIGERIA, BRITAIN AND THE SOVIET UNION. FOR THIS, WE HAVE WON THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT OF THE RIGHT THINKING WORLD WHILE CONFOUNDING AND CONFUSING OUR ADVERSARIES.

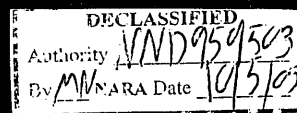
IT IS TRUE THAT THE LAST YEAR HAS SEEN THE COMBINED FORCES OF THE ENEMY INTENSIFY THEIR AGGRESSION AND DETERMINATION TO DESTROY US AS A PEOPLE. (SEMI COLON) IT IS TRUE THAT PART OF OUR GOD GIVEN TERRITORY HAS BEEN OCCUPIED AND RAVAGED BY THE ENEMY. (SEMI COLON) WE HAVE LOST THOUSANDS OF DEAR ONES BY BULLETS, BOMBINGS, STRAFFING, ROCKETING AND STARVATION. (SEMI COLON) OUR CITIES AND PROPERTY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. (SEMI COLON) OUR CHURCHES AND SHRINES DESECRATED, OUR YOUNG GIRLS RAVISHED, AND OUR WOMEN DEFILED, HUNDREDS OF OUR KITH AND KIN CARRIED AWAY INTO SAVAGE CAPTIVITY BY THE NIGERIAN HORDES. WE HAVE FACED DEADLINES UPON DEADLINES SET BY THE ENEMY. YET, IN SPITE OF ALL THESE TRIBULATIONS AND DEPRIVATIONS WE HAVE CONTINUED TO SURVIVE.

I HAVE SAID THAT WE STARTED THIS YEAR ISOLATED AND FRIENDLESS IN A WORLD WHOSE CONSCIENCE AND FEELING FOR HUMANITY APPEARED DEAD, IN A WORLD AFRAID OF THE TRUTH AND LACKING THE COURAGE TO UPHOLD JUSTICE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY. THIS POSITION HAS CHANGED. WE ARE NO LONGER WITHOUT FRIENDS. WE ARE NO LONGER ISOLATED. WE ARE NO LONGER WITHOUT SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING. FOUR PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN COUNTRIES, WITH A LEADERSHIP HONEST AND COURAGEOUS, WITH AN INDEPENDENCE, CONFIDENT TO OBEY THE CALL OF CONSCIENCE AND HUMANITY, HAVE GIVEN US DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION. THE WORLD AS A WHOLE HAS BEEN AWAKENED TO THE JUSTNESS OF OUR CAUSE. OUR CASE IS NO LONGER TREATED WITH INDIFFERENCE OR CALLOUSNESS. IN PRACTICALLY ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, THE VOICE OF CONSCIENCE AND HUMANITY IS CRYING OUT AND AS A RESULT RELIEF MATERIALS ARE COMING IN UNDER VERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES FROM HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS THE WORLD OVER FOR OUR SUFFERING PEOPLE. WORLD LEADERS HAVE CALLED, IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE, FOR AN END TO THIS CONFLICT. THE FUTURE NO LONGER LOOKS BLEAK. WE NOW FACE IT WITH CONFIDENCE AND UNPRETENTIOUS HOPE.

AS WE THINK OF THESE THINGS LET US NOT FORGET, NOR ALLOW THE

UNCLASSIFIED

0340





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 00002 01 OF 03 021937Z

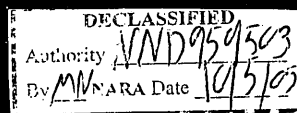
WORLD TO FORGET. THE REAL CAUSES OF THIS WAR. WE NEVER STARTED THIS WAR. WE WERE ATTACKED BY NIGERIA. INDEED WE ARE FIGHTING PURELY IN SELF-DEFENCE AND FOR OUR SECURITY AND SURVIVAL. DESPITE ALL OUR EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS RIGHT THROUGH OUR UNFORTUNATE ASSOCIATION WITH THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA, WE HAD BEEN SUSPECTED, PROVOKED, PERSECUTED, AND OFTEN TIMES KILLED. THE CLIMAX CAME IN 1966 WHEN, WITH CLOCK-LIKE REGULARITY IN MAY, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, OUR PEOPLE, IN A MANNER MOST BRUTAL, WERE MASSACRED IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF NIGERIA. IN SEARCH OF SAFETY AND SECURITY, WE RETURNED HOME AND ABANDONED EVERY MATERIAL THING WE HAD EARNED AND POSSESSED IN EVERY PART OF THAT ILL CONCEIVED FEDERATION. WE MADE STRENUOUS EFFORTS FOR PEACE BUT WERE RIDICULED AND SUBJECTED TO PERFDY, ILL FAITH, AND PHYSICAL HAZARDS. OUR PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN IN SALARIED EMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA WERE DENIED THEIR SALARIES. OUR SHARE OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN NIGERIA RUNNING INTO SEVERAL MILLION POUNDS, WAS DENIED US. WE WERE BLOCKADED. WE WERE THREATENED. AND WE WERE INSULTED AT OUR OWN INITIATIVE WE SOUGHT RESPITE AROUND THE ABURI CONFERENCE TABLE. AT OUR OWN INSISTENCE TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF THE ERST-WHILE FEDERATION HAD MET TO DISCUSS MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION. AT OUR FURTHER INITIATIVE THE ADVISERS TO MILITARY GOVERNORS HELD A MEETING IN LAGOS TO SEARCH FOR PEACE. THE ABURI AGREEMENTS WERE TORN ASUNDER BY YAKUBU GOWON. ALL SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS - INDEED THE VERY CONSTITUTION, WERE TRAMPLED UNDER FOOT WITH IMPUNITY BY YAKUBU GOWON. ONE HITLERITE ACT FOLLOWED ANOTHER. OUR PEOPLE, IN FACE OF MOUNTING SUFFERINGS AND UNDER THE THREAT OF DEATH, WITH NO HOPE OF JUSTICE, MET AND DECIDED TO ASSERT OUR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION.

ON THE 30TH MAY, 1967, WE PROCLAIMED THE REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA. THAT PROCLAMATION, TAKING FULL COGNIZANCE OF OUR GEOGRAPHICAL PROXIMITY, EXTENDED A HAND OF FELLOWSHIP AND CO-OPERATION TO OUR FORMER COLLEAGUES OF THE NIGERIAN FEDERATION. GOWON'S RESPONSE WAS TO MARCH ACROSS OUR BOUNDARIES ON 6TH JULY, 1967, IN ARMED AGGRESSION AGAINST OUR INJURED AND DEFENCELESS PEOPLE. TODAY, AFTER 18 MONTHS OF HEROIC RESISTANCE, WITH VICTORY CLEARLY ELUDING THE AGRESSOR, WE HAVE JUSTIFIED OUR CLAIMS AND OUR RIGHT TO SURVIVAL AS A NATION.

THE WAR RAGES. GOWON MUST NOW HAVE REALISED THAT THERE CAN BE NO MILITARY SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. SINCE SEPTEMBER THIS

UNCLASSIFIED

0341





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 00002 01 OF 03 021937Z

YEAR, HIS TROOPS HAVE GAINED NO MORE OF OUR TERRITORY. THEY HAVE SUFFERED VERY SERIOUS CASUALTIES. THEY ARE STEADILY LOSING WHAT THEY HAVE SEIZED. IN THE AWKA, ONITSHA, OWERRI AND ABA SECTORS, OUR MILITARY SUCCESSSES HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR MANY CIVILIANS WHO HAD FLED THEIR HOMES TO RETURN.

OUR STRUGGLE IS A PEOPLE'S FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL. IT IS THE PEOPLE'S ASSERTION OF THEIR RIGHTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION. IT IS AN AFRICAN STRUGGLE AGAINST NEO-COLONIALISM, AGAINST OPPRESSION, AGAINST EXPLOITATION, AGAINST THE COMFORTABLE MYTH OF RACIAL SUPERIORITY PRACTISED AND SUSTAINED BY OUR ONE-TIME COLONIAL MASTERS. THE WAR HAS CONTINUED TO THIS DAY BECAUSE OF THE DETERMINATION OF HAROLD WILSON TO CRUSH A PEOPLE OF PROGRESS, OF TALENT AND INITIATIVE IN AN AREA OF AFRICA WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO KEEP FOR-EVER UNDER ITS DIRECT ECONOMIC CONTROL AND INDIRECT POLITICAL SUBSERVIENCE. CHARACTERISTICALLY, THE SOVIET UNION, SENSING THE BREAK UP OF THE INCONGRUOUS FEDERATION, HAS JOINED IN THE SCRAMBLE FOR INFLUENCE. THE UNITED STATES MESMERIZED BY THE VISIONS OF THE OLD COUNTRY, HAS CONTINUED BLINDLY TO SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON IN HIS WICKED AND OUTDATED MILITARY ADVENTURE.

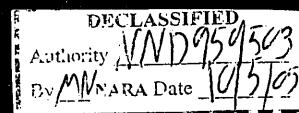
HAROLD WILSON IS THE REAL OBSTACLE TO PEACE. HIS ATTITUDE AND CONDUCT THROUGHOUT THIS WAR HAVE SHOWN THAT HE REGARDS NIGERIA AND BIAFRA AS MARKETS RATHER THAN COUNTRIES, THEIR PEOPLES AS CHATTEL RATHER THAN HUMAN BEINGS, INANIMATE, WITH NO ASPIRATIONS AND PRIDE. HAROLD WILSON'S ATTITUDE IN SUPPORTING THE NIGERIAN WAR OF GENOCIDE AGAINST OUR PEOPLE HAS BEEN AS CONTEMPTUOUS AND MEAN AS IT HAS BEEN SUBJECTIVE AND DENIGRATE.

WHILE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ABORTIVE ADDIS ABABA PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING ON, HAROLD WILSON WAS BUSY WITH THE LAGOS JUNTA FINALISING FOR A "QUICK KILL" OF THE PEOPLE OF BIAFRA. HE SHIPPED TO NIGERIA BY AIR WIGGINS

UNCLASSIFIED

31

0342





Ref 15-1 731/10
Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 536

PAGE 01 USUN N 00002 02 OF 03 021922Z

44
ACTION AF 16

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, ACDA 16, SCSE 00, SCA 01, E 15, PC 04, RSR 01,
SAH 02, ARA 08, NEA 13, EA 10, /199 W

018763

O R 021821Z JAN 69 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5660
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 USUN 002

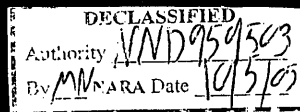
AND SEA, AND IN AN UNPRECEDENTED SCALE, TONS OF THE MOST
SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS FOR USE AGAINST OUR PEOPLE. THE AGREE-
MENT BY NIGERIA TO ATTEND THE ADDIS ABABA TALKS WAS NOTHING
BUT A HOAX. HAROLD WILSON'S SUPPORT FOR THIS CONFERENCE WAS
A MERE ALIBI FOR A CRIME OF MURDER.

AGAINST MOUNTING BRITISH DISGUST, HAROLD WILSON, AS A DIVERSION,
PROPOSED AN INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM, APPOINTED ITS LEADER
MAJOR-GENERAL ALEXANDER, AND ANNOUNCED IT EVEN BEFORE LAGOS
MADE PUBLIC HERE DECISION TO INVITE SUCH A TEAM. ALEXANDER WENT TO
LAGOS WITH CLEAR ORDERS - TO WHITEWASH THE CRIME AND TO MANIPULATE
AND OBTAIN A REPORT FAVOURABLE TO MR. HAROLD WILSON.

HAROLD WILSON'S LATEST TRICK HAS AGAIN BEEN EXPOSED BY NO OTHER
PERSON THAN MAJOR-GENERAL ALEXANDER HIMSELF, WHILE ASSESSING A
MEETING IN LONDON RECENTLY HE SPOKE OF WILSON'S POANS FOR TOTAL
VICTORY FOR NIGERIA BY JANUARY 1969. HE SPOKE OF HAROLD WILSON'S
PLAN FOR A MASSIVE "QUICK KILL" WHICH WOULD NECESSITATE, FIRST,
THE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF OUR AIRPORTS, THE STRENGTHENING OF
THE NIGERIAN AIR FORCE WITH BETTER PILOTS TO FACILITATE THIS,
AND A FURTHER SUPPLY OF ARMoured VEHICLES FROM BRITAIN.

UNCLASSIFIED
31

0343





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00002 02 OF 03 021922Z

AND PERSONNEL TO MAN THEM. HE SPOKE OF PLANS TO MOUNT MORE INTENSIFIED PROPAGANDA ACCUSING ME OF BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STARVATION OF OUR PEOPLE. HE SPOKE OF ADVICE TO GOWON TO ABANDON WHAT IS LEFT OF HIS SANDHURST DAYS, AND TO CONDUCT THE WAR WITH APPROPRIATE BRUTALITY AND RUTHLESSNESS. ON THE QUESTION OF RELIEF, HE SAID IT WAS THE POSITION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND NIGERIA TO INSIST ON A LAND CORRIDOR, WHICH THEY KNEW MIGHT NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO US, IN ORDER TO ENSURE FURTHER STARVATION WHICH WOULD THEN BE BLAMED ON ME PERSONALLY, AT THE SAME TIME ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF THEIR MILITARY OPERATIONS. HE SPOKE OF THE QUICK END TO THE CONFLICT AFTER WHICH ALL RELIEF WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT FOR DISTRIBUTION BY NIGERIAN RED CROSS. AS A NECESSARY PREPARATION FOR THIS, MAJOR GENERAL ALEXANDER FLEW TO GENEVA ON FRIDAY THE 20TH OF DECEMBER IN A BID TO GET THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES HAND OVER THEIR RELIEF PROGRAMME TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS. FINALLY, HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD SOON BE GOING TO NIGERIA TO SUPERVISE THE FINAL OPERATIONS. AS I SPEAK TO YOU NOW, THIS PLAN IS GATHERING MOMENTUM. FELLOW BIAFRANS, I ASSURE YOU THIS PLAN WILL SURELY FAIL.

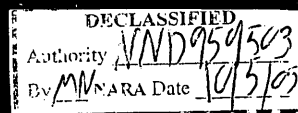
I HAVE THROUGHOUT THIS STATEMENT REFERRED TO MR. HAROLD WILSON AS AN INDICATION OF OUR CONVICTION THAT HE IS THE REAL ENEMY OF THE DEFENCELESS BIAFRAN PEOPLE. I SAY THIS WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT THE PUBLIC IN BRITAIN DO NOT SUPPORT HIM. THE PRESS IN BRITAIN DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. THE CONSERVATION PARTY IN BRITAIN DOES NOT SUPPORT HIM. THE LABOUR PARTY AND ITS EXECUTIVE DO NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. THE LABOUR PARLIAMENTARY GROUP DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. HIS CABINET, JUDGING FROM PRIVATE UTTERANCES OF ITS MEMBERS, DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. THE CHURCH IN ENGLAND DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. RUSSIA CANNOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. THE UNITED STATES, IN REVIEWING ITS POLICY, IS NOT CONVINCED OF HAROLD WILSON. EUROPE DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. NIGERIA DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, MAILED AND UNMAILED, THE SICK AND THE DYING, THE FIT AND FIGHTING IN BIAFRA DO NOT, AND CANNOT, SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. HUMANITY DOES NOT SUPPORT HAROLD WILSON. THE ALMIGHTY GOD, SURELY, MUST HAVE TO ABANDON HAROLD WILSON.

OUR POSITION AND CONVICTION HAVE REMAINED THAT THIS IS A FUTILE WAR WHICH CAN SETTLE NOTHING EXCEPT TO WIDEN THE GULF.

UNCLASSIFIED

1/

0344





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 00002 02 OF 03 021922Z

BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF BIAFRA AND THOSE OF NIGERIA, AS WELL AS DEEPEN HATRED AND INCREASE SUFFERING. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE HAVE SPARED NO PAINS IN WORKING TOWARDS THE END OF THE PRESENT CONFLICT AND THE BEGINNING OF PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS. I HAVE MADE TWO JOURNEYS IN SEARCH OF PEACE. I HAVE TWICE OFFERED TRUCE. I HAVE MADE COUNTLESS PROPOSALS FOR PEACE WHICH HAVE ALL BEEN BRUSHED ASIDE BY THE LAGOS JUNTA NOW CRAZED BY BLOOD LUST. THE LAGOS JUNTA IS NOT INTERESTED IN PEACE OTHER THAN THE PEACE OF DEATH. THEIR ATTITUDE TO NEGOTIATION IS ONLY TO EXERT SURRENDER.

SINCE WE ASK NOTHING OTHER THAN TO BE LEFT ALONE, SINCE WE ARE NO TREES THAT REMAIN FIXED IN FACE OF THE WOODMAN'S AXE, OURS MUST BE TO FIGHT AND CONTINUE FIGHTING UNTIL THE THREAT TO OUR VERY EXISTENCE IS REMOVED. FOR US, IT IS A PEOPLE'S WAR, A WAR BEING FOUGHT WITH THE TOTALITY OF OUR PEOPLE BEHIND THEIR GOVERNMENT, AND A GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATING AT EVERY TURN ITS TRUCE POSITION AS THE SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE. OUR STRUGGLE IS NOTHING NEW IN HISTORY; IT IS THE TRADITIONAL STRUGGLE OF MEN IN SOCIETY TO WHICH EVERYBODY IS DEDICATED. IF ANYBODY IS IN DOUBT, WE SAY AGAIN AS WE HAVE ALWAYS SAID, THAT WE ACCEPT A PLEBISCITE OR REFERENDUM CONDUCTED OR OBSERVED BY AN IMPARTIAL AGENT.

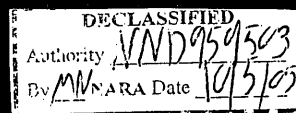
THIS WAR IS A FUTILE ONE. IT CAN ACHIEVE NOTHING EXCEPT MISERY AND WASTE ON BOTH SIDES TO THE CONFLICT. IT IS NOTHING BUT A DISGRACE TO AFRICA AND CAN DELIGHT NO ONE BUT THE NEO-COLONIALISTS. ALREADY IN ADDITION TO THIS WAR AGAINST BIAFRA, NIGERIA IS NOW FACING UPHEAVALS WHICH ARE BOUND TO CAUSE ADDITIONAL MISERY AND SUFFERING TO THE PEOPLE OF THAT UNFORTUNATE COUNTRY. THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN NIGERIA, FED UP WITH THE WAR, HAVE COME TO REALISE, THOUGH A LITTLE TOO LATE, ITS FUTILITY. THEY NOW LIVE UNDER CURFEWS AND MARSHAL LAW AND THEIR ATTEMPTS TO EXPRESS THEIR FEELINGS HAVE MET WITH MILITARY REPRESSION. ARMIES HAVE BEEN LET LOOSE IN THEIR MIDST, WAR PLANES HAVE PRACTISED THEIR MURDEROUS SKILLS ON THEIR UNSUSPECTING CIVILIANS.

IN BIAFRA OUR PEOPLE CONTINUE TO SUFFER, OUR INSTITUTIONS CONTINUE TO STAGNATE. INDEED OUR PROGRESS HAVE REMAINED AT A STAND-STILL; OUR HOES ARE RUSTING, THE WHEELS OF OUR INDUSTRY HAVE CEASED-UP WITH LACK OF USE, OUR MEN AND WOMEN FOR LONG SEPARATED, BEGIN TO FORGET THE JOYS OF FAMILY LIFE WITH ITS BEATIFUL LAUGHTER. I THINK OF MOTHERS BEREAVED OF THEIR CHILDREN,

UNCLASSIFIED

4/

0345





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 00002 02 OF 03 021922Z

CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF THEIR PARENTS, THE MAIMED, THE SICK AND THE DYING; I THINK OF HUSBANDS, I THINK OF WIVES - ALL THESE ARE MY CONCERN. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT I SINCERELY PRAY THAT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEWYEAR MAY BE A TIME FOR EVERY ONE OF US, NOT ONLY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT, BUT ALSO IN THE WORLD AT LARGE, TO TAKE STOCK. IT IS INCUMBENT UPON ALL TO DEDICATE THEMSELVES ANEW TO THE EFFORTS OF PEACE, TO THE ALLEVIATION OF HUMAN SUFFERING, AND TO THE CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE, PROGRESS AND HAPPINESS. WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT HISTORY WILL BE THE FINAL JUDGE.

NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE MAY SAY OR DO, FUTURE PROGRESS AND PERMANENT PEACE LIES ONLY THROUGH THREE THINGS - CEASEFIRE, RELIEF OF SUFFERING, AND NEGOTIATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

3/

0346

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MW
DATE	10/5/05



Pl 15-1
Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 553

PAGE 01 USUN N 00002 03 OF 03 022001Z

44

ACTION AF 16

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, ACDA 16, SCSE 00, SCA 01, E 15, PC 04, PSR 01,

SAH 02, ARA 08, NEA 13, EA 10, /199 W

018934

O R 021821Z JAN 69 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5661
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
STAE GRNC

UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 USUN 002

FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

THE CURRENT WAR OF GENOCIDE, I REPEAT, WILL CONTINUE TO DEEPEN BITTERNESS AND FRUSTRATE ASPECTS OF HARMONY UNLESS IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT TO AN END. EVERY DAY OF DELAY HARDENS ATTITUDES, DEEPENS BITTERNESS AND CREATES OBSTACLES TO PEACE, WE MUST ALL SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE NEW YEAR AND THIS SEASON OF GOODWILL AND PEACE TO CUT OUR LOSSES WHILE SANITY STILL REMAINS. AS FOR US BIAFRANS, WE STAND, IN SPITE OF ALL PROVOCATIONS, ALL SUFFERINGS, ALL DEPRIVATIONS, ALL MISREPRESENTATIONS, SLANDERS AND LYBELS, FOR PEACE, WE DO THIS NOT BECAUSE WE ARE IN DOUBT OF ULTIMATE VICTORY AND SURVIVAL, BUT BECAUSE OF OUR GENUINE CONSIDERATION FOR HUMANITY.

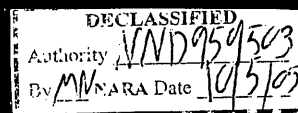
MY MESSAGE ON THIS OCCASION IS THEREFORE A MESSAGE TO HUMANITY. IT IS A MESSAGE OF DEDICATION TO PEACE AND JUSTICE.

HAVING SAID THIS, I MUST HERE DEAL WITH THE SUBJECTS OF RELIEF, CEASEFIRE AND PEACE.

UNCLASSIFIED

20

0347





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

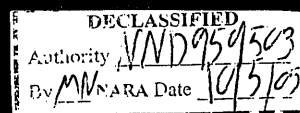
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00002 03 OF 03 022001Z

1. ON RELIEF, LET ME REPEAT THAT WE WELCOME RELIEF FROM ANY WELL MEANING QUARTERS SO LONG AS ITS RECEIPT DOES NOT PLACE THE RECIPIENTS IN JEOPARDY. BIAFRA WILL, HOWEVER, NEVER ACCEPT RELIEF THROUGH NIGERIA OR FROM THE BRITISH AND RUSSIAN GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE SUPPORTING NIGERIA IN THIS WAR. WE HAVE NEVER OBJECTED TO AIR, SEA AND LAND ROUTES FOR RELIEF. BUT IT MUST BE EMPHASIZED THAT RELIEF, NO MATTER HOW MASSIVE, CAN ONLY SERVE AS A PALLIATIVE. ONLY THE END OF THE CONFLICT CAN BRING REAL RELIEF.
2. ON THE QUESTION OF DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS, I REPEAT THE OFFER WHICH I MADE A WEEK AGO IN MY CHRISTMAS MESSAGE, TO MAKE LAND AVAILABLE TO ANY RELIEF ORGANISATION WHICH FINDS THE PRESENT NIGHT FACILITIES INADEQUATE, TO BUILD AN AIRPORT OR AIRSTRIP FOR DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. THE GOVERNMENT OF BIAFRANS NEVER BEEN OPPOSED TO DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. IT WAS IN ORDER TO FACILITATE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS INTO BIAFRA THAT WE BUILT AN AIRSTRIP IN UTURU AND HANDED IT OVER COMPLETELY TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. THIS AIRPORT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ASSAULTED AND SEIZED BY THE CRIMINAL JUNTA IN LAGOS.
3. ON THE QUESTION OF LAND AND SEA CORRIDORS, OUR GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE ANY SUCH CORRIDORS PROVIDED THE SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE IS NOT PLACED IN JEOPARDY. FOR THIS REASON WE CONTINUE TO PROPOSE A CORRIDOR BY SEA USING THE RIVER NIGER TO OGUTA. IT HAS TO BE REMEMBERED THAT THE ONLY REASON GOWON'S BOASTS HAVE COME TO NAUGHT HAS BEEN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR LAND ROUTE OBSTACLES. NOBODY IN HIS RIGHT MIND WOULD THEREFORE EXPECT, UNDER AN ATMOSPHERE FRAUGHT WITH BAD FAITH AND COMPLETE INSENSITIVITY TO WORLD OPINION, THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS COUNTRY WOULD HAND OVER THIS KEY OF OUR SURVIVAL TO A FAITHLESS ENEMY.
4. ON THE VITAL QUESTION OF CEASEFIRE AND NEGOTIATIONS, WE SUBMIT THAT A CEASEFIRE MORE THAN ANY OTHER PLAN OR PROPOSAL IS THE SUREST AND MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF BRINGING RELIEF TO THE PEOPLE. HITHERTO, WE HAVE INSISTED THAT THERE MUST BE A CEASEFIRE BEFORE ANY NEGOTIATIONS, BUT CONSIDERING THE DIFFICULTIES AND DELAYS ASSOCIATED WITH A CEASEFIRE BEFORE IT CAN BE MADE EFFECTIVE, WE PROPOSE A TRUCE FOR A LIMITED AND SPECIFIED PERIOD DURING WHICH ARRANGEMENTS FOR A CEASEFIRE CAN BE MADE. DURING THAT PERIOD TOO, THE MUCH NEEDED RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR THE SUFFERING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT CAN BE BROUGHT IN WITHOUT IMPEDIMENTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

0348





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 00002 03 OF 03 022001Z

5. WE PROPOSE THAT BOTH THE CEASEFIRE AND NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS.

6. AS I HAVE MENTIONED IN MY DISCUSSION WITH RECENT FOREIGN VISITORS, THERE IS A WIDE AREA OF CO-OPERATION OF GREAT MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OPEN TO NIGERIA AND BIAFRA. NEGOTIATIONS CAN COVER A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND EVEN THE POSSIBILITY OF A COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENT.

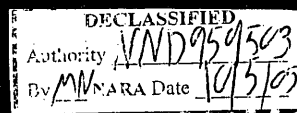
7. THE OVERRIDING REQUIREMENT IS GOOD FAITH, FREE OF PREJUDICE AND MISTRUST BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED.

HERE, MAY I SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY, AS I HAVE DONE IN MY REPLIES TO THOSE WHO HAVE WRITTEN TO US, TO EXPRESS OUR DEEP APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE OF THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF BIAFRA TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND WORLD LEADERS WHO HAVE APPROACHED BOTH SIDES EITHER IN PUBLIC APPEALS OR IN PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE FOR A CEASEFIRE AND PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS. I MUST MENTION IN PARTICULAR HIS HOLINESS THE POPE, HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY HAILE SALASSIE OF ETHIOPIA, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS, THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND OTHER LEADING WORLD PERSONALITIES WHO HAVE WRITTEN TO ME ON THIS SUBJECT. I ALSO MENTION WORLD STATESMEN LIKE GENERAL DE GAULLE AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, PRESIDENT JOHNSON, LEADERS OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES THE WORLD OVER, AND OTHERS WHO HAVE MADE PUBLIC APPEALS. WE CANNOT FORGET THE EFFORTS OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS, THE INTER-CHURCH ORGANISATION, THE FRENCH RED CROSS, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE TO RELIEVE THE STARVATION AND SUFFERINGS OF OUR PEOPLE. IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT THE EFFORTS AND APPEALS OF ALL OF THEM WILL NOT BE IN VAIN AND THAT ALL CONCERNED OR INVOLVED IN THIS CONFLICT WILL SEIZE THIS SEASON OF GOODWILL AND THE OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY THE NEW YEAR, TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION AND END THE CONFLICT AND WAR IN THIS PART OF AFRICA.

THESE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE OFTEN ENOUGH BUT OUR ENEMIES HAVE CHOSEN TO ASSERT THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN MADE. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE ENEMY IS BENT ON WAR AND CONQUEST. I MUST WARN THE LAGOS JUNTA THAT THERE IS NO LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR WINNING THIS WAR IF FOR THE PAST 18 MONTHS, WITH ALL THE BEST ADVANTAGES, THEY HAVE NOT MADE A DEEPER IMPRESSION ON OUR RESISTANCE. THEY

UNCLASSIFIED

0349





Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 00002 03 OF 03 022001Z

HAVE NO HOPE, NO, NOT NOW THAT OUR MILITARY POSITION HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY AND WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE. OUR RESISTANCE WHICH HAS NEUTRALIZED THE ENEMY ADVANCE WILL DOUBLE, INDEED DOUBLE, IN THE COURSE OF THE COMING YEAR, BUT WAR AND RESISTANCE ARE NOT OUR MAIN CONCERN, OUR MAIN CONCERN IS PEACE AND THAT IS WHY WE SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON TO DECLARE AN 8-DAY TRUCE TO GIVEN THE LEADERS OF BOTH SIDES SOME RESPITE FOR REFLECTION. IT IS A MATTER FOR REGRET THAT OUR OPPONENTS NOT ONLY FAILED TO RECIPROCATE OUR GESTURE BUT ALSO FAILED TO HONOUR EVEN THEIR OWN TRUCE.

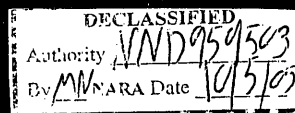
FINALLY, THE EVENTS OF THE PASSING YEAR LEAVE ME WITH A DEEP FEELING OF PRIDE AND SORROW. AS I SPEAK, MY MIND TURNS WITH JOYOUS PRIDE TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE THROUGH THEIR BLOOD AND TOIL SAVED OUR DEAR FATHERLAND FROM TOTAL DESTRUCTION. I THINK WITH PRIDE OF MEMBERS OF OUR FIGHTING FORCES, IN THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE WAR, WHO ARE LAYING DOWN THEIR LIVES AND ALL THAT THEY HOLD DEAR IN DEFENCE OF OUR FREEDOM. I THINK OF OUR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, DOCTORS AND NURSES EMPLOYING WITH A DETERMINED PATRIOTIC ZEAL ALL THE SKILLS OF MODERN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO ENSURE THAT BOTH OUR HUMAN AND NATURAL RESOURCES ARE FULL GEARED TOWARDS THE STRUGGLE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY. I THINK OF THE FARMERS WHO LABOUR ROUND THE SEASONS, DAY AND NIGHT, MAKING AVAILABLE PRODUCTS OF THEIR LABOUR TO ENSURE WE DO NOT ALL PERISH THROUGH HUNGER AND STARVATION. I THINK OF THE VOLUNTEER WORKERS, THE FOREIGN MISSIONARIES IN OUR MIDST, THE PUBLIC SERVANTS, TRADE UNIONS, OUR SUPPLY DIRECTORATES, THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL RELIEF BODIES AND THEIR INDOMITABLE PILOTS AND ENGINEERS. I THINK OF OUR LOCAL LEADERS AND MANY MORE WHO HAVE DEDICATED THEIR TIME AND LIVES TO EITHER HELPING VICTIMS OF NIGERIAN ATROCITIES OR IN SUSTAINING THE BIAFRAN REVOLUTION.

I ALSO REMEMBER WITH DEEP SORROW ALL THE VICTIMS OF THEIR CRUEL AND UNJUST WAR - THE BEREAVED, OUR REFUGEES, THOUSANDS OF OUR OWN KITH AND KIN BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES, OUR BRAVE AND GALLANT MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE DAILY BEING TORTURED IN NIGERIAN PRISONS BECAUSE THEY ARE DETERMINED TO DIE PROUD BIAFRANS AND NOT AS SLAVES. I SALUTE THEM ALL. I SALUTE THEM AGAIN THE FIRM CONVICTION THAT THEIR SACRIFICES WOULD NOT BE IN VAIN AS THE GOAL - BIAFRA - THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN HOLDS THE PROMISE OF ALL THAT WE PRICE SO DEAR AND CHERISH.

UNCLASSIFIED

20

0350





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 USUN N 00002 03 OF 03 022001Z

GOD GRANT US ALL A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR. ENDS
WIGGINS

UNCLASSIFIED

20

0351

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA
Date	10/15/03

64



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 329

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00025 021629Z

50
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, SS 20,

GPM 04, NSC 10, AID 28, IO 13, RSR 01, /133 W

018038

R 021600Z JAN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4245
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

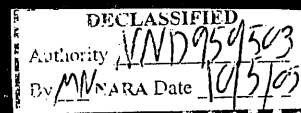
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 025

SUBJECT: OJUKWU NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

1. FBIS DID NOT MONITOR OJUKWU SPEECH AND WE HAVE BEEN
UNABLE AS YET TO OBTAIN TEXT. EMBASSY THEREFORE CAN
ADD NOTHING TO WHAT WAS CARRIED BY VOA AND BBC ON
RADIO THIS MORNING.
EXEMPT
MATHEWS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0352



66



POL 27-4 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 TRPOL 15-1 BIAFRA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 318

PAGE 01 LAGOS 14461 171155Z

2.
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, SA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28,

ACDA 16, RSR 01, SCSE 00, SCA 02, MC 01, /171 W

040335

R 141740Z NOV 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3532
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
 DIA
 USMISSION GENEVA
 AMCONSUL KADUNA
 AMCONSUL IBADAN

UNCLAS LAGOS 14461

SUBJECT: OJUKWU ATTACKS INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS; REASSERTS BIAFRAN SOVEREIGNTY

1. ACCORDING TO REBEL RADIO BROADCAST NOVEMBER 14 OJUKWU TOLD MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT "FROM CANADA, HOLLAND, DENMARK AND AN OFFICIAL OF BRITISH LABOR PARTY" THAT A PROPER SOLUTION OF CIVIL WAR WOULD BE "BASED ON RECOGNITION OF BIAFRAS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND THAT PRE-REQUISITE TO THIS SHOULD BE CEASE FIRE".

2. OJUKWU DENIED BIAFRA "USING MERCENARIES AS EXTENSIVELY AS NIGERIA". HE ALSO DENIED REBELS RECEIVING FRENCH AID "IN WEAPONS, AMMUNITION OR MONEY". HE SAID HE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ACCEPT MILK FROM BRITAIN, IN ANSWER TO QUESTION, ADDING THAT BRITAIN "AN ACCOMPLICE IN NIGERIAS ACTS OF GENOCIDE".

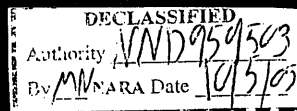
3. ON INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM OJUKWU QUESTIONED THEIR UTILITY AND SAID THAT THEY SHOULD COME TO BIAFRA TO OBSERVE CONDITIONS.

4. OJUKWU EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH RED CROSS, SAYING ICRC DID NOT BELIEVE IN BIAFRAS EXISTENCE AND THAT ORGANIZATION UNABLE "GET

UNCLASSIFIED

21

0353



66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*13939
10-26-68*

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 230

PAGE 01 LAGOS 13939 261100Z

14
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15,SSO 00,NSA 02,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,

NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 25,USIA 12,SAH 02,IO 13,AID 28,SR 01,

ORM 03,SCS 04,SCA 02,RSR 01,157 W

053707

O R 260935Z OCT 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3269

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 13939

1. NIGERIAN PRESS TODAY HEADLINES STORIES FROM LIBREVILLE TO EFFECT OJUKWU IN HOSPITAL THERE AFTER BEING WOUNDED BY DISEFFECTED IBO.
2. SOME VERSIONS OF STORY SAY OUIKWU HAD BEEN IN LIBREVILLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE ATTACK.
3. WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER LIGHT EMBASSY CAN SHED ON RUMORS.
EXEMPT. MATHEWS

RECEIVED

①

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0354

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/03



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

30
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 299 31

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01884 261319Z

44

ACTION AF 16

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, MM 01, AID 28, PC 04, IO 13,

SY 03, SAH 02, SR 01, RSR 01, /127 W

054044

O 261405Z OCT 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2037

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1884

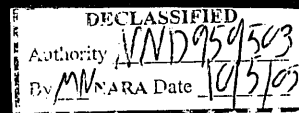
REF LAGOS 13939

HAVE HAD NO INDICATION OJUKWU IN LIBREVILLE RECENT DAYS. FIRST WE HEARD OF STORY OJUKWU WOUNDED IN LIBREVILLE WAS ON VOA NEWS BROADCAST LAST NIGHT. THIS MORNING GOVT NEWS BULLETIN GABON MATIN CARRIED REPORT THAT BIAFRAN PRESS BUREAU GENEVA HAD CATEGORICALLY DENIED INFO FROM NIGERIAN SOURCE ACCORDING TO WHICH OJUKWU WOUNDED IN ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE IN LIBREVILLE. BIAFRAN SPOKESMAN REPORTEDLY LABELED STORY "PURE AND SIMPLE FANTASY." GABON MATIN COMMENTED "IN LIBREVILLE THIS NEWS PROVOKED GREATEST HILARITY! TO STIMULATE MORALE FEDERAL TROOPS WHO APPEAR IN DIFFICULTY, LAGOS IS CONDUCTING RATHER PUERILE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE. NEITHER GABONESE NOR BIAFRANS NOR WORLD OPINION IS FOOLED." ABOVE IS FOLLOWED IN GABON MATIN BY LONG ARTICLE ALLEGING MILITARY PICTURE HAS CHANGED ON ALL FRONTS IN FAVOR BIAFRANS. THIS IS SUBJECT OF SEPTEL. EXEMPT. BANE

1
CLASSIFIED BY 15/3

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0355





Pal 15-1 Biafra
RR Pal 27 Biafra-Nigeria
RR Soc 14-7 Nigeria
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 773

PAGE 01 USUN N 06828 040025Z

92

ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 10, EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, ARA 08, EA 10, NEA 13,

NIC 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /183 W
052951

R 032335Z OCT 68
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3523
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 6828

NIGERIA

FOL IS TEXT OF LETTER WHICH CONTAINS MESSAGE FROM OJUKWU,
ADDRESSED TO BUFFUM, FROM OTUE, BIAFRAN SPECIAL REP INU US:

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO FORWARD HERewith THE FULL TEXT OF A MSG
WHICH I RECEIVED TODAY FROM HIS EXCELLENCY, BIAFRAN HEAD OF
STATE, LT. COL. C ODUMEGWU OJUKWU, FOR TRANSMISSION TO HIS
EXCELLENCY HONORABLE LYNDON B. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

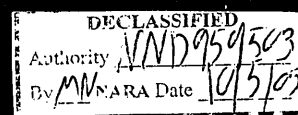
"YOUR EXCELLENCY,"

THE BIAFRAN GOVERNMENT, ON BEHALF OF ITS PEOPLES, WOMEN
AND CHILDREN, NON-COMBATANTS, URGENTLY PLEADS WITH YOUR
EXCELLENCY AND GOVERNMENT THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AVAIL ITSELF
IMMEDIATELY OF ARTICLE 8 OF THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION TO CALL
UPON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO TAKE SUCH
ACTION UNDER THE CHARTER AS THEY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE FOR
THE PREVENTION, REPEAT PREVENTION, AND SUPPRESSION OF ACTS
OF GENOCIDE BEING PERPETRATED BY THE NIGERIAN FEDERAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

REPRODUCED BY 88/11

0356





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 USUN N 06828 040025Z

GOVERNMENT AND ITS ARMED FORCES, SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE SOVIET UNION AND EGYPT, IN BIAFRA. MILLIONS OF LIVES ARE IN HOURLY JEOPARDY AND, THEREFORE, IMMEDIATE ACTION IS RESPECTFULLY URGED. YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ACTION TO PREVENT ACTS OF GENOCIDE CANNOT BE INTERPRETED TO BE PREJUDICIAL OR PARTIALITY OR INTRUSION INTO ALLEGED INTERNAL SITUATION BUT WOULD BE OF THE HIGHEST HUMANITARIAN ORDER.

IN THIS HISTORIC YEAR OF HUMAN RIGHTS, I FURTHER URGE YOUR EXCELLENCY TO TAKE THIS ACTION, WHICH IS IN FULL ACCORD WITH THE HIGHEST HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 1, 55 AND 56 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER WHICH ENJOIN THE ORGANIZATION AND ALL MEMBER STATES TO PROMOTE "UNIVERSAL RESPECT FOR, AND OBSERVANCE OF, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS...BASED ON RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES."

PLEASE ACCEPT, YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM."

C. ODUMEGWU ODJUKWU
HEAD OF STATE, REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA"

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

BUFFUM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0357

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <i>VND959503</i>
By <i>MM</i> NARA Date <i>10/5/05</i>



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

UNCLASSIFIED 274

PAGE 01 LAGOS 13030 271431Z

52
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, 10 13, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 25, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04,

USIA 12, SAH 02, SCA 02, SCG 04, SR 01, DRH 03, INR 07, SSD 00, NSCE 00,

CIAE 00, USIE 07, NSA 02, E 15, OCT 10, NIC 01, AID 25, PC 04, EA 10,

RSR 01, 197 W

P 271300Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2767
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCSYRIKE/CINCMEDIA
DIA UNN
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 13030

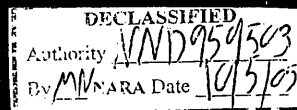
SUBJECT: OJUKWUS SPEECH ON BIAFRAS CURRENT POSITION

1. REBEL RADIO BROADCAST A TEXT OF AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT AT 1500 GMT ON SEPT 26 DESCRIBING OJUKWUS SPEECH TO A JOINT MEETING OF THE BIAFRAN CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND ELDERS.

2. SAYING FIGHT FOR FREEDOM HAS NEVER BEEN EASY, OJUK CALLED FOR REDEDICATION TO STRUGGLE, CLAIMING QTE WE CAN REGAIN LOSTS GROUND BY RENEWED EFFORT. UNQTE OJUKWU EMPHASIZED REBEL FORCES WILL COMBINE CONVENTIONAL AND GUERRILLA ACTION WHICH HE CONVINCED WILL DEFEAT ENEMY. QTE BIAFRAS WISHED ENEMIES AND DETRACTORS HAVE

UNCLASSIFIED

0358





Department of State

TELEGRAM

48

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 13030 271831Z

BEEN TELLING THE WORLD THAT THE WAR HAS COME TO AN END. THE FOREMOST PROPAGANDISTS OF THIS BOGEY, HE OBSERVED, HAVE BEEN THE BBC AND THE VOICE OF AMERICA. COLONEL OJUKWU SAID THAT SUCH SPECULATIONS AND HOPES ARE UTTER NONSENSE. IN MANY RESPECTS, THE WAR IS FAR FROM ENDING--IN FACT IT IS JUST BEGINNING. UNQTE

3. OJUKWU SAID IT QTE FANTASTIC UNQTE TO TALK OF GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE. QTE GOD FORBID, HE ADDED, THAT ANY BIAFRAN LEADER SHOULD EVER CONTEMPLATE ESCAPING AT THIS TIME. UNQTE

3. ON ROLE OF OAU, OJUKWU ASCRIBED FAILURE THAT ORGANIZATION ACT EFFECTIVELY QTE LARGELY BECAUSE THE AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT THE OAU ARE NOT RPT NOT ONLY AGENTS BUT MERE TOOLS OF BRITISH, AMERICAN, AND RUSSIAN IMPERIALISM. UNQTE BIAFRA HAD ALWAYS CONSIDERED ITS CRISIS AS ESSENTIALLY AN AFRICAN PROBLEM TO BEST BE DEALT WITH BY AFRICANS, BUT QTE OAU SUCCUMBED TO THE SUGGESTION THAT BIAFRAS CASE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT EVEN BE DISCUSSED IN THE PUBLIC. UNQTE WORLD DOES NOT RPT NOT KNOW WHAT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTED TO OAU AT ALGIERS, AND UP TO NOW QTE NOTHING HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY COMMUNICATED TO BIAFRA, EITHER BY THE OAU SECRETARIAT OR BY THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. UNQTE

5. IN SEPARATE BROADCAST AT 1700 GMT SEPT 26, OJUKWU QUOTED INDIRECTLY AS SAYING THAT ON ONITSHA-ANKA AXIS, BIAFRANS HAD CHECKED FEDERALS, BUT ON ANGU-AFIKPO SECTOR, FMG HAS MADE QTE SOME GAINS. UNQTE THEREBY THREATENING BIAFRAN AIRSTRIP AT UTURU. OJUKWU ALSO CLAIMED REBELS HOLDING FEDERALS AT CROSS RIVER AND THAT REBELS HAVE AGAIN ENTERED IKOT EKPENE.

6. OJUKWU ADMITTED LOSSES OF ABA AND ONERRI, WHERE REBELS SUFFERED QTE GREATEST REVERSES. UNQTE THIS HAS INCREASED QTE ALREADY ACUTE REFUGEE PROBLEM. UNQTE

7. AFTER REPEATING BIAFRAN ARGUMENT THEY DEFENDING THEMSELVES FROM EXTERMINATION, OJUKWU SAID BIAFRA HAS FOUGHT BACK AND HAS BEEN ABLE HOLD ENEMY SUFFICIENTLY TO AROUSE WORLD UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT. QTE FAR FROM BEING DISCOURAGED BY THE REVERSES IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR, THE INCREASED INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF BIAFRAS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS IMPROVED SUPPLY POSITION GIVES HIM MORE CONFIDENCE IN OUR ABILITY TO FRUSTRATE THE ENEMY. HE DECLARED: WE ARE STRONGER TODAY THAN WE WERE TWO WEEKS AGO, AND INDICATIONS ARE THAT WE SHALL CONTINUE TO GROW FROM STRENGTH TO

UNCLASSIFIED

0359

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MM NARA
Date	10/5/02



Department of State

TELEGRAM

48

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 13030 271831Z

STRENGTH. UNQTE

8. ON ROLE OF MAJOR POWERS, OJUKWU CASTIGATED BRITISH FOR QTE MORAL ENSLAVEMENT TO ECONOMIC INTERESTS AT EXPENSE OF HUMAN LIVES AND ARROGANT POSTURE FOR PRESTIGE. UNQTE SAID RUSSIAN ROLE IN CONTRAST TO BRITISH, QTE MAY EVEN BE REGARDED AS MORE RESPECTABLE AND MORE HONORABLE BECAUSE IT OPEN AND HONEST, NOT RPT NOT BUTTRESSED BY LAME EXCUSES OF LEGALITY AND OTHER SUCH NONSENSE. UNQTE WITH REFERENCE UNITED STATES, OJUKWU SAID QTE ONE SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED BY (THEIR ATTITUDE) BECAUSE IT CONFORMS WITH THE CALLOUS AND INHUMAN ATTITUDE OF THAT GOVT TOWARD THE BLACK MINORITIES IN AMERICA. UNQTE

9. OJUKWU QTE THANKED GOVERNMENTS LIKE FRANCE AND PEOPLES CHINA WHO HAVE MADE STATEMENTS AFFIRMING BIAFRAS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, UNQTE AND URGED THEM QTE JOIN BIAFRAS FRIENDS UNQTE TO INSURE SURVIVAL OF PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE OF BIAFRA. UNQTE THEY SHOULD ALSO SUPPORT CANADIAN INITIATIVE TAKE CONFLICT BEFORE UN ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

0360

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 95/503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/03



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 364

PAGE 01 LAGOS 11477 071819Z

54

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16, SA 01, SAH 02,
SAL 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, 163 W

R 071705Z AUG 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1887
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
US MISSION GENEVA 337
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

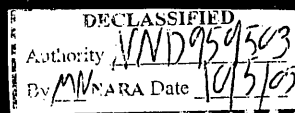
UNCLAS LAGOS 11477

SUBJECT: FMG PRESS RELEASE ON OJUKWU

1. FMG PRESS RELEASE (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED) AUG. 7
ENTITLED "OJUKWU ORDERS GENERAL MOBILISATION." FOLLOWS:
2. "REBEL LEADER ODUMEGWU OJUKWU HAS SAID HE DOES NOT BE-
LIEVE IN PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF NIGERIAN CRISIS. HE IS
UNDERSTOOD HAVE TOLD HIS FOREIGN BACKERS WHO MET HIM IN
ADDIS ABABA OVER LAST FEW DAYS IT NOT HIS INTENTION HOLD
MEANINGFUL TALKS WITH FEDERAL DELEGATES.
3. "RELIABLE SOURCES CLOSE TO REBEL DELEGATION REVEALED
OJUKWU WENT TO ADDIS ABABA FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST TO PLAY
FOR TIME, AND OBTAIN MORE ARMS AND FOREIGN SUPPORT. SEC-
ONDLY, HE WISHES USE OPPORTUNITY OF TALKS FOR PROPAGANDA
ADVANTAGE AND OBTAIN MORE WORLD SUPPORT, AND WHIP UP SYMPATHY.
OJUKWU HAS NOW ORDERED WHAT HE CALLED GENERAL MOBILISATION.

UNCLASSIFIED

0361





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

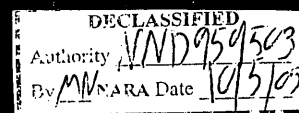
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 11477 071819Z

4. "OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN LAGOS WOULD NOT REVEAL WHAT GOVERNMENT PLANS ARE, EXCEPT SAY THAT THEY QUITE AWARE OF ALL OJUKWU'S MANOEUVRES AND RECENT DELIVERIES OF ARMS. ARMY CIRCLES ARE QUITE CONFIDENT OF THEIR FIRM CONTROL OF SITUATION." MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

0362





POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 650 POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 11080 231822Z

82
ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, GPMI 04, H 02, INRI 07, LI 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, NSA 02, EURI 15, IO 13, AIDI 28, ORM 03, SR 01, ~~RSR~~ 01, T43 W

R 231640Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1667
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
RUEBBEA/CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 11080

SUBJECT: OJUKWU STATEMENT

REF: LAGOS 10982

1. REBEL LEADER OJUKWU HELD NEWS CONFERENCE ON HIS RETURN
TO BIAFRA ACCORDING TO EASTERN RADIO BROADCAST 1800 GMT JULY 22
(FBIS ITEM N2307101).

2. ACCORDING REBEL RADIO, OJUKWU FORECAST AN EARLY RESUMPTION
OF PEACE TALKS. OJUKWU PROPOSED A GENERAL TRUCE WITH A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0363

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VV12959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

46



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

44
Page 10462
9-2-68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 274

PAGE 01 LAGOS 10462 021857Z

54
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, ACDA 16, AID 28, CIAE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, PSRI 01, 153 W

P 021130Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1333
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
UGSUC/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 754
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YOUNDE
US MISSIO GENEVA 239
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CNCSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
RUEOJFA/DIA

RECORDED BY 88/A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 10462

KAMPALA FOR PALMER

SUBJECT: OJUKWU'S SPEECH

1. BIAFRAN RADIO BROADCAST SPEECH BY OJUKWU AFTERNOON
JULY 1. SPEECH WAS ESSENTIALLY A REPORT TO CONSTITUENT
ASSEMBLY ON DEVELOPMENTS SINCE KAMPALA PEACE TALKS AND
MAY ACTUALLY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER.

2. RECEPTION NOT PARTICULARLY GOOD IN LAGOS AND FBIS:
TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE, BUT MAJOR THRUST OF SPEECH WAS
TIRADE AGAINST BRITISH FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPLY AMRS:
TO FMG. OJUKWU ALSO TOOK VERY NEGATIVE LINE ON RESUMPTION

11

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0364

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VNI 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 10462 021857Z

PEACE TALKS AND REITERATED BIAFRAN POSITION THAT RELIEF SUPPLIES MUST COME DIRECTLY BY AIR RATHER THAN THROUGH FMG-CONTROLLED TERRITORY.

3. U.S. GOVERNMENT SHARED IN THE FALLOUT FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPORTING BRITISH POLICY AND FOR HAVING SOLD ARMS AND AMMUNITION (REFERENCE WAS TO 106 RECOILLES RIFLES).

4. GENERAL TONE OF SPEECH WAS UNYIELDING, DEFIANT, ALMOST TRUCULENT.

5. AS FASCINATING FOOTNOTE, OJUKWU REPEATED A STORY (PREVIOUSLY CARRIED ON BIAFRAN RADIO) THAT A FIRST SECRETARY OF BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION IN LAGOS WAS WITH FEDERAL FORCES NEAR PORT HARCOURT, WHERE HE WAS FATALLY WOUNDED, THEN EVACUATED TO LONDON, WHERE HE DIED. WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME OJUKWU HIMSELF HAS REPEATED ANY OF THE MORE PREPOSTEROUS STATEMENTS MADE BY RADIO BIFRA, AND THIS ONE WILL CERTAINLY DO NOTHING TO ENHANCE HIS PERSONAL CREDIBILITY. DECON ON RECEIPT.
MATHEWS.
B

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0365

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 459

PAGE 01 LAGOS 10462 022232Z

01
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, AID 28,

PC 04, ACDA 16, MC 01, 162 W

P 021130Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1333
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
UQSUC/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 754
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY ARIS
AMEMBASSY YOUNDE
US MISSIO GENEVA 239
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CNCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
RUEOJFA/DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 10462

KAMPALA FOR PALMER

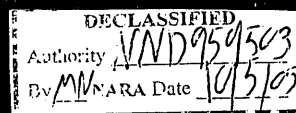
SUBJECT: OJUKWU'S SPEECH

1. BIAFRAN RADIO BROADCAST SPEECH BY OJUKWU AFTERNOON
JULY 1. SPEECH WAS ESSENTAILLY A REPTDT TO CONSTITUENT
ASSEMBLY ON DEVELOPMENTS SINCE KAMPALA PEACE TALKS AND
MAY ACTUALLY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER.

2. RECEPTION NOT PARTICULARLY GOOD IN LAGOS AND FBIS.
TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE, BUT MAJOR THRUST OF SPEECH WAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0366





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 10462 022232Z

YIRADE AGAINST BRITISH FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPLY ARMS TO FMG. OJUKWU ALSO TOOK VERY NEGATIVE LINE ON RESUMPTION PEACE TALKS AND REITERATED BIAFRAN POSITION THAT RELIEF SUPPLIES MUST COME DIRECTLY BY AIR RATHER THAN THROUGH FMG-CONTROLLED TERRITORY.

3. U.S. GOVERNMENT SHARED IN THE FALLOUT FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPORTING BRITISH POLICY AND FOR HAVING SOLD ARMS AND AMMUNITION (REFERENCE WAS TO 106 RECOILLES RIFLES).

4. GENERAL TONE OF SPEECH WAS UNYIELDING, DEFIANT, ALMOST TRUCULENT.

5. AS FASCINATING FOOTNOTE, OJUKWU REPEATED A STORY (PREVIOUSLY CARRIED ON BIAFRAN RADIO) THAT A FIRST SECRETARY OF BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION IN LAGOS WAS WITH FEDERAL FORCES NEAR PORT HARCOURT, WHERE HE WAS FATALLY WOUNDED, THEN EVACUATED TO LONDON, WHERE HE DIED. WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME OJUKWU HIMSELF HAS REPEATED ANY OF THE MORE PREPOSTEROUS STATEMENTS MADE BY RADIO BIFRA, AND THIS ONE WILL CERTAINLY DO NOTHING TO ENHANCE HIS PERSONAL CREDIBILITY. DECON ON RECEIPT. MATHEWS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0367

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959/503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

DEPT. DISTRIBUTION			
ORIGIN/ACTION			
AF-5			
RS/R	REP	AF	ARA
1			
EUR	FE	NEA	CU
5			
INS	E	P	IO
5		2	5
L	FBO	AID	
3		12	
5/5	4/1	3/1	5/1
10			2
AGR	COM	FRB	INT
LAB	TAR	TR	XMB
AIR	ARMY	NAVY	OSD
5	3	5	3
USIA	NSA	CTA	NSC
10	3	20	6

AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Original to be Filed in _____ Decentralized Files.

FILE DESIGNATION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

A-1464

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : LAGOS, STOCKHOLM

FROM : Amembassy BONN

DATE: June 18, 1968

SUBJECT : Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Reporting on Biafra

REF : Bonn 13329

Attached is our informal translation of articles which appeared in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on June 6 and 7, reporting the Ojukwu interview cited in referenced telegram and covering aspects of the military situation in Biafra.

In the interview, Ojukwu gives strong praise to the FRG for its restraint in the Biafran conflict, criticizes the UK and the Soviet Union for their "interference," and appeals for aid for Biafran refugees. The earlier article contradicts claims of successes by Nigerian forces around Port Harcourt and Enugu, and describes some details of the military situation.

Attachment:
As stated.

LODGE 15.5.

COPY 12-FCR

JUN 24 AM 11 23

POST ROUTING			
TO:	Action	Info	Initials
AMB/PO			
DCM			
POL			
ECON			
CONS			
ADM			
AID			
USIS			
FILE			

Action Taken:

Date:

Initials:

FORM 10-64 DS-323

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

For Department Use Only

☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

POL:SG [Signature] berg:mjm

Drafting Date:

Phone No.:

3103

Contents and Classification Approved by:

POL:JSSutterlin

Clearances:

O - 12634

0368

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VMD 954503
By: MNA Date: 10/5/03

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Attachment 1 of
Bonn's A-1464

Informal Translation of Frankfurter Allgemeine Article of June 7

Headline: Ojukwu Condemns Great Britain
London Held Responsible for Extension of War in Nigeria

Umuahia, 6 June. The Federal Republic has the best image in Biafra of all the major countries. Lt. Colonel Ojukwu, the chief of the republic that broke away from Nigeria more than a year ago, strongly praised the FRG's actions two years ago, when war appeared likely, in withdrawing its soldiers, who were active in building up the Nigerian air force, and also in withdrawing specialists of the Fritz Werner AG just when the arms and munitions factory in northern Nigeria reached completion at the beginning of the war.

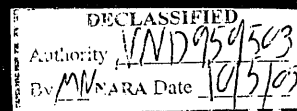
In his headquarters in Umuahia, Ojukwu characterized the posture of a number of countries toward the Nigeria-Biafran war. The intervention by the Soviet Union in favor of Nigeria, by delivery of rockets, MIG jets and Iljuschin bombers, was nothing but opportunism and an attempt, which the Soviets already regretted, to establish a bridgehead in this part of Africa. Contrary to Ojukwu's expectations, France has not helped Biafra, and the neutrality of the United States helps Nigeria, for the United States uses the justification that this is "an African problem in a British sphere of influence."

Great Britain, whose delivery of arms, bombs, mercenaries, assigned officers and one-sided propaganda abroad first enabled Nigeria to carry out the war, is the chief enemy of a peaceful solution. "This war will end only when Great Britain wants it to," declared Ojukwu.

The Lt. Colonel appealed to all countries of the world to provide Biafra with food, medicine and clothing and to send specialists to help the populace build shelters against Nigerian bomb attacks. Biafra also urgently needs specialists to help solve the massive problems created by the stream of more than 4.5 million refugees into areas not immediately jeopardized by the enemy. The number of war dead on both sides -- never possible to learn exactly -- was stated by Ojukwu as more than 100,000.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0369



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Attachment 2
of Bonn's A-1464

Informal Translation of Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Article of June 6

Headline: Reports of Nigerian Success Prove False
Port Harcourt Still Not Taken/Biafran Units in Counter-
offensive/Capital City of Enugu Still Contested

Umuchitta, 5 June. At no time have the Nigerians yet succeeded in pushing into Port Harcourt. Ostensible eye-witness reports, as they were presented in British radio, appear to be pure fiction.

One unit of the Biafran forces has for days held the inner city, while other Biafran troops, coming from three different directions, have attacked those Nigerian forces that had gotten as far as from the mouth of the Imo river by Opobo to the port area and had occupied several suburbs, one a settlement of Europeans.

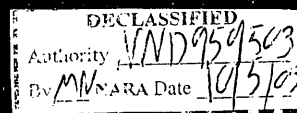
The village Umuchitta, northeast of Port Harcourt, lies only three kilometers from the luxury hotel Presidential and less than 8 kilometers from the harbor in the innermost center of the city. Less than half a kilometer south of Umuchitta, a small Nigerian group had established itself in several houses along the street. As soon as the jungle-fighters of Biafra were able to clear these houses, the main road from Owerri to Port Harcourt was also freed. Another Biafran unit had as early as the Whitsun weekend succeeded in cutting one of the two supply roads of the Nigerians and had attacked the second and last one.

The astounding fighting spirit of the Biafran forces, which in number and equipment are far inferior to the enemy, suggests that the Nigerian forces collected around Port Harcourt may be cut off and destroyed. The Nigerians were never able to use the airport, which is still contested. Port Harcourt itself has been evacuated by the civilian populace. There is documentary evidence that at least by the third week in May the Biafran forces still stood in the immediate vicinity of their capital Enugu and presumably, as heard from army circles, still occupy the airport in the east, as well as one part of Enugu itself.

It is shocking to see with ones own eyes how little truth there is in the reports of success that have for months been coming out of Lagos and that have also been carried by the British press. Reports from Biafran army circles state that not only has the city of Onitsha near the Niger bridge long since been cleared of the enemy, but also that whole units of Biafran forces are fighting in depth west of the Niger river in the former mid-west region of Nigeria.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0370





Department of State

TELEGRAM

RR POL 27.9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 7-7

PAGE 01 BONN 13329 142006Z

81
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01,

/130 W

R 141810Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8696
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 13329

SUBJ: OJUKWU INTERVIEW

REF: STATE 182450, STATE 183143

1. THE FRANKFURT R ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG (FAZ) CARRIED A STORY ON JUNE 6 DATED UUAHIA REPORTING THE INTERVIEW WITH LT. COL. OJUKWU. IN IT, OJUKWU GAVE WARM PRAISE TO THE FRG BUT SEVERELY CASTIGATED THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UK FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S MILITARY ACTIVITIES AGAINST BIAFRA. OJUKWU WAS ALSO QUOTED AS APPEALING FOR MATERIAL AID FOR REFUGEES ALONG THE LINES MENTIONED IN REFTELS. THERE WAS NO SUGGESTION IN THE STORY THAT RELIEF SUPPLIES HAD TO BE DIRECTED TO BIAFRA WITHOUT TRANSITING FEDERAL TERRITORY.

2. WE ARE FORWARDING AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE ARTICLE BY AIRGRAM ALONG WITH A TRANSLATION OF A SECOND ARTICLE IN THE FAZ ON JUNE 6 SETTING FORTH THE MILITARY SITUATION IN NIGERIA.
LODGE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0371

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 950503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

POL 279 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1R POL 15-1 BIAFRA
1R POL 7 BIAFRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 818

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09911 131218Z

43
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUP 15, IO 13, SAH 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 2, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, 153 W

R 121800Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1023
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

LAGOS 9911
4/12/68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9911

SUBJECT: OJUKWU COMMENT ON NEED FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES

REF: LAGOS 4807, 9701

1. BIAFRAN RADIO CARRIED AT 2010 GMT JUNE 11 RECORDED PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY OJUKWU ON JUNE FIVE. (FBIS ITEMS N112055 AND N120710). REASON FOR DELAY UNKNOWN, ALTHOUGH IT POSSIBLE BROADCAST OF CONFERENCE HELD UP TO ALLOW JOURNALISTS TIME TO GET OUT OF BIAFRA TO FILE COPY. LONG DELAY MAY ALSO INDICATE JOURNALISTS HAD TROUBLE LEAVING REBEL TERRITORY, AND EMBASSY HAS NO INFO ON ANY STORIES FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS GUNTER GRARBE, WEST AFRICAN CORRESPONDENT FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG; TODD WALSTROM OF SWEDISH RADIO; MICHAEL LIEBMAN, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT OF LONDON DAILY SUN, AND FNU SENIOR EDITOR OF DER SPIEGEL OF HAMBURG. (NAMES AND TITLES AS RECEIVED BY FBIS). DEPT MAY WISH QUERY BONN AND STOCKHOLM.

2. ACCORDING BROADCAST, OJUKWU SAID THERE FOUR AND ONE-HALF MILLION REFUGEES IN BIAFRA; THAT GREATEST NEED IS FOR FOOD, MEDICINE AND CLOTHING; THAT MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE TO COPE WITH VAST NUMBER REFUGEES IS LACKING, AND THAT AFRICAN EXTENDED FAMILY SYSTEM HAS TAKEN CARE OF ONLY FRACTION OF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0372

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VNP 959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

23
Haga 9913
16-12-68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 796

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09912 131213Z

45
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, ACDA 16, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07,

L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01,

SAH 02, /155 W

R 121815Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1024
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9912

SUBJ: OJUKWU COMMENTS ON U.S. NIGERIAN POLICY

1. IN JUNE 11 BROADCAST OF PRESS CONFERENCE RECORDED JUNE 5,
"BIAFRAN" LEADER OJUKWU REPORTEDLY SAID AMERICA CAN DO MORE
THAN IT NOW IS TO END NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR.

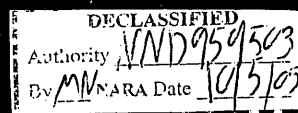
2. TEXT OF "BIAFRAN" RADIO REPORT ON OJUKWU PRESS CONFERENCE
ON THIS POINT IS AS FOLLOWS (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED): "I
THINK MAJOR POWERS CAN STOP BRITAIN FROM SUSTAINING THIS WAR.
THEY CAN BRING MORAL PRESSURE TO BEAR ON BRITAIN TO DESIST
FROM FIGHTING AN IMPERIALIST WAR BY PROXY. IN ANSWER TO
QUESTION ON PERFORMANCE OF AMERICA IN STRUGGLE, HEAD OF STATE
SAID THAT U.S. FROM BEGINNING TRIED WASH ITS HANDS OF WAR,
SAYING IT AN ESSENTIALLY AFRICAN PROBLEM IN BRITISH SPHERE OF
INFLUENCE. AMERICA, HE SAID, TRADITIONALLY DOES NOT LET DOWN
ITS ALLIES, AND WITHOUT ACTIVELY SUPPORTING BRITAIN, HAS
CERTAINLY GIVEN MORAL SUPPORT. OJUKWU SAID LATELY THERE HAVE
BEEN COMMENTS INDICATING SLIGHTLY MORE THAN A NEUTRAL APPROACH
BY THE UNITED STATES. DESPITE THIS, AS A LEADING POWER
AMERICA CANNOT ABSOLVE ITSELF OF MORAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
CARNAGE. HE SAID THAT AMERICA CAN DO MORE THAN IT IS NOW
DOING TO END THE WAR".
DECON ON RECEIPT MATHEWS.

RECORDED IN 100-1

11

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0373



OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

POLIS-BIAFRA
182450

13 JUN 68 20 03Z

FOR OC/T

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy BONN
" STOCKHOLM

-INFO: " LAGOS

Subj: Ojukwu Interview with European Journalists

REF: Lagos 9911 (repeated Bonn, Stockholm)

FBIS items N112055 and N120710 of June 11 report press conference June 5 of Biafran leader Ojukwu with Gunter Crabbe, West African correspondent of Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung; Senior Editor of Der Spiegel (name indistinct); and Todd Welstrom of Swedish Radio. Dept would appreciate reports by these men or any reports dealing with Ojukwu news conference which may have come to Embassies' attention.

182450

RUSK

Drafted by: AF:AFW:DF Smith:ba 6/13/68 Tel. Ext. 7704
Clearances: Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AFW - Roy M. Melbourne

EUR/SCAN:PRHughes (sub)
EUR/GER:EWilkins (sub)
TJHirschfeld

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0374

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VMD 954503
By: MW Date: 10/5/09



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
XK POL 17-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

26

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 219

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09310 221833Z

43
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01,

SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, 144 W.

R 221630Z MAY 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 694
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 435
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUTAND/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1182
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSTTIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9310

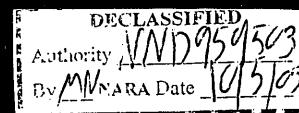
SUBJECT: OJUKWU'S SPEECH TO BIAFRA'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. COL. OJUKWU ADDRESSED BIAFRA'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY IN HURRIEDLY CALLED MEETING AT OWERRI MAY 20. OJUKWU RECALLED PROMISE TO CONSULT ASSEMBLY BEFORE SENDING FINAL INSTRUCTIONS TO BIAFRAN DELEGATE AT KAMPALA.

2. OJUKWU REVIEWED HISTORY RECENT PRELIMINARY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0375





Department of State

TELEGRAM

26

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09310 221833Z

TALKS IN LONDON. SAID NIGERIA TALKED PEACE AS MEANS TO AVOID FURTHER RECOGNITION OF BIAFRA AFTER TANW NIA'S RECOGNITION. ARIKPO'S VISIT TO LONDON SEEN AS MORE PROOF THAT "NIGERIA CANNOT ACT WITHOUT THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT." SPEECH EXTREMELY HOSTILE TOWARDS BRITAIN. ARIKPO ACCUSED OF EXPRESSING WILLINGNESS TO CALL UPON BRITAIN ASSIST IN CAPTURE OF PORT HARCOURT IF NEEDED. BRITAIN AND NIGERIA CHARGED WITH "INSINCERITY AND DUPLICITY."

3. MAY 1 FIRST CHOSEN FOR OPENING PEACE TALKS BECAUSE PH WAY TO BE CAPTURED BY APRIL 30 IN COMBINED BRITISH/NIGERIAN ATTACK. WHEN ATTACK DID NOT MATERIALIZE TALKS POSTPONED.

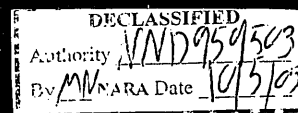
4. OJUKWU GAVE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO PRELIMINARIES. BIAFRA COULD NOT AGREE TO LONDON BECAUSE OF THE ANTAGONISTIC POSITION OF BRITAIN. OJUKWU ACCUSED NIGERIA OF EMPLOYING DELAYING TACTICS CONCERNING CHOICE OF LOCATION, AGENDA AND CHAIRMANSHIP. HE LABELED FAILURE TO NAME CHAIRMAN SIGN THAT FMG "DOES NOT WANT CONFERENCE TO SUCCEED" AND WAR OF "EXTERMINATION AND GENOCIDE" WILL CONTINUE.

5. AT KAMPALA BIAFRA'S DELEGATES WILL INSIST ON FOREIGN CHAIRMAN AND/OR FOREIGN OBSERVERS AT MEETINGS. THE STATED REASON BEING DESIRE TO HAVE PROCEEDINGS KNOWN TO AN OUTSIDE PARTY. OJUKWU DECLARED THAT CEASE-FIRE IS ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE TO DISCUSSION OF FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH NIGERIA. HE REITERATED THAT BIAFRANS FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL. OJUKWU STATED "WE WANT RIGHT OF PEACE AND SECURITY WITHIN AND OUTSIDE BIAFRA". COMMENT: IN PAST REBEL LEADERS HAVE USED SUCH PHRASING TO MEAN SOVEREIGNTY IS ESSENTIAL.

6. OJUKWU EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS IN DIPLOMATIC FRONT, NAMING COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RECOGNIZED "BIAFRA". HE MENTIONED THAT ONE EUROPEAN NATION (UNNAMED BUT APPARENTLY CZECHOSLOVAKIA) HAD STOPPED SUPPLY ARMS TO NIGERIA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0376





Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09310 221833Z

7. OJUKWU RECOGNIZED THAT MILITARILY, BY FAR THE MOST SERIOUS SETBACK COULD BE THE LOSS OF PORT HARCOURT, " BUT ASSERTED WHILE SITUATION SERIOUS" CITY NOT LOST". COMMENT: OJUKWU SPEECH WAS MADE AFTER PH CAPTURED BY FMG AND WHEN MANY REFUGEES FROM PH WERE PROBABLY STREAMING INTO OWERRI. HOW HE CAN CONTINUE TO DECEIVE HIS PEOPLE, AND APPARENTLY GET AWAY WITH IT, IS MINOR MIRACLE, BUT DIFFICULT SEE HOW SUCH DELUSIONS CAN LAST MUCH LONGER.

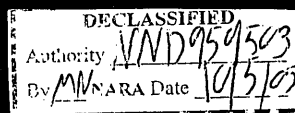
8. IN CONCLUDING REMARKS OJUKWU CALLED FOR "GREATER DEDICATION, SACRIFICE, RESOLUTENESS" IN A DIFFICULT TIME AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE. THROUGHOUT SPEECH OJUKWU INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO HOLD TALKS AND JUXTAPOSED THE "INTRIGUES AND DELAYS" OF THE FMG. REASONABLE TO CONCLUDE HE NOW EAGER OBTAIN CEASE-FIRE WHILE AVOIDING APPEARANCE OF YEIDLING ON SUBSTANCE.

9. OJUKWU ANNOUNCED BIAFRAN DELEGATES TO KAMPALA TALKS ARE: SIR LOUIS MBANEFO, LEADER; C.C. MOJEKWU; DR. ENI NJOKU; JAMES UDOFIA; M.I. UBUARA (PHONETIC?); PLUS TEAM OF OFFICIALS AND ADVISERS.

DECON 5/22/69. OLSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0377





POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 925

PAGE 01 LAGOS 08450 201511Z

45
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, SAH 03,

(RSR 01, /071 W

R 201943Z APR 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 245
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
RUEPJS/DIA UNN
USUN 270

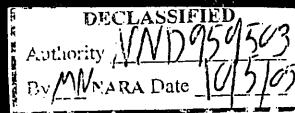
UNCLAS LAGOS 8450

EURADIO "BIAFRA" CARRIED BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT THAT 0530GMT

PAGE 2 RUDSLC 8450 UNCLAS
APRIL 20 THAT OJUKWU "HAS RESUMED FULL DUTIES AFTER
OBSERVING A WEEK OF LENTEN RETREAT. THE RETREAT
ENDED YESTERDAY. DURING HIS ABSENCE MAJOR GENERAL
PHILIP EFFION WAS THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE
GOVERNMENT."
OLSON

UNCLASSIFIED

0378





POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
TR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 071

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05961 181005Z

8
ACTION AF 15

INFO MM 01, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, E 15, AID 28, NSA 02, PSR 01,
TO 13, ACDA 16, XMB 06, COM 08, TRSY 08, /181 W

1-18-68
5961

R 180915Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8985
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2019
AMCONSUL IBADAN UNN
AMCONSUL KADUNA UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5961

SUBJECT: OKIGBO'S STATEMENT TO FINANCIAL TIMES RE WAR DAMAGE
TO "BIAFRA"

REF: LONDON'S 5321 (NOTAL) Pol 15-1 BIAFRA

DEPT. PASS AID/FOR INVESTMENT GUARANTIES STAFF, EXIMBANK

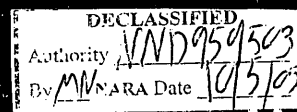
1) WE HAVE NOW SEEN TEXT OF FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT OF "EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW" WITH OJUKWU, WHICH VERY FULLY REPORTED REFTEL, AND
HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2) OKIGBO OVERSTATES CURRENT DAMAGE TO PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5961CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
IN EASTERN STATES AS RESULT OF WAR:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0379





Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 05961 181005Z

A) FEDERAL OFFICIALS SAY NKALAGU CEMENT FACTORY CAPTURED VIRTUALLY INTACT. NASHBUGRIAN OF NOV. 30 CARRIES PHOTOGRAPH OF PLANT WITH MILITARY VEHICLES IN FOREGROUND, IN WHICH NO SPT NO DAMAGE EVIDENT.

B) CALABAR CEMENT FACTORY REPORTED BY RELIABLE EXPATRIATE VISITORS TO HAVE SUSTAINED SLIGHT AND PROBABLY SUPERFICIAL DAMAGE DURING CAPTURE OF CALABAR.

C) ONITSHA MARKET HAS PROBABLY BEEN EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED IN EXCHANGE OF SHELL FIRE BETWEEN ASABA AND ONITSHA. CANNOT NOW ASSESS HOW EASY DAMAGE WILL BE TO REPAIR.

D) NORTHERN OBSERVER WHO VISITED NSUKKA UNIVERSITY DEC. 28 SAYS CAMPUS BUILDINGS NOT DAMAGED BEYOND FEW BROKEN WINDOWS. WE DO NOT RPT NOW KNOW STATE OF LIBRARY BUT UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION BELIEVES THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF MOVALRE EQUIPMENT. COMMISSION HAS HAD LONGSTANDING PLANS VISIT NSUKKA, AND NOW EXPECTS MAKE DETAILED SURVEY AT END THIS MONTH. BUILDINGS ON ENUGU CAMPUS NOT MATERIALLY DAMAGED, ACCORDING VARIOUS SOURCES.

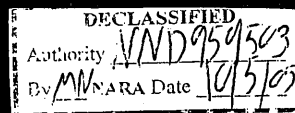
E) OKIGBO'S COMMENT THAT ABA TEXTILE MILL "COMPLETELY

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5961CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
DESTROYED BY AERIAL BOMBARDMENT," SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE RESEARCH ON PART ABATEX OFFICE LAGOS. ABATEX LAGOS BELIEVES ONE RAID ON ABA IN LATTER HALF DECEMBER IS SOURCE OF REPORT OUTLINED IN DEPTTEL 5321. AMONG SPECIFIC TARGETS ASSIGNED WAS ABA ELECTRICITY GENERATING PLANT. SMALL HAND LOOM OPERATION EMPLOYING PERHAPS 100 PEOPLE WHICH HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN KNOWN AS "THE ABA TEXTILE PLANT," IS VERY CLOSE TO ECN AND MAY WELL HAVE SUFFERED DAMAGE IN RAID. ABATEX LAGOS BELIEVES OKIGBO MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO DAMAGE TO SMALL HAND LOOM OPERATION. ABATEX LAGOS BASES THIS CONCLUSION ON FIRM, ALTHOUGH NOT FIRST HAND, INFORMATION FROM PILOT, PRESUMABLY EGYPTIAN,

INVOLVED. HOPES TO PROCURE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE RE STATE OF PLANT (E.G., PHOTOGRAPHS) IN NEAR FUTURE. FOREGOINV:9,CLUSION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0380





Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 05961 181005Z

BORNE OUT BY PERMSEC MIN INDUSTRIES 4SIODU'S RELIEF NO DAMAGE
DONE TO ABA PLANT (EMBTEL 5544). ABATEX LAGOS NOTES THAT
CLAIM FEDERAL PLANES HAVE DAMAGED MAJOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT HAS

PROPAGANDA VALUE FOR BIADSRAN GOVERNMENT. COMMENTS IT WOULD
BE DIFFICULT TO "FLATTEN" PLANT THE SIZE OF ABATEX.

F) WE UNDERSTAND FROM FEDERAL MILITARY SOURCES THAT
SOME OR ALL PALM OIL STORAGE TANKS IN PORT HARCOURT HAVE

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5961CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
BEEN DESTROYED.

G) WE DO NOT RPT NOT KNOW IF REFINERY HAS SUSTAINED ANY
SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE.

H) DAMAGE TO BONNY TERMINAL AS YET NO RPT NOT ASSESSED.
SHALL BP WHICH SENT EXPERTS TO BONNY LATE IN 1967 UNWILLING
ESTIMATE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED PUT TERMINAL BACK IN
OPERATION UNTIL FIGHTING IN AREA IS OVER, BUT SAY MINIMUM
OF FOUR MONTHS WILL BE REQUIRED.

EXEMPT. MATHEWS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0381

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State TELEGRAM

NR POL 15-1 BIAFRA 45

SECRET 45

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05795 112134Z

01/11-68
5795

S2

ACTION SS 70

INFO MM 01/071 W

R 11145Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8012
INFO CINCSIRKE/CINCPACAFSA
DIA
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2000
AMEMBASSY PARIS 725
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 971

SECRET LAGOS 5795R

LIMLIS

SUBJ: OJUKWU'S PLAN TO ESCAPE FROM BIAFRA

1. WHILE ON HOLIDAY TRIP TO CLIMB MT. CAMEROON, POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON BRITISH AND NIGERIAN CONSULS AT RUFA, WEST CAMEROON. BRITISH CONSUL ON JANUARY 3 SAID HIS INFORMATION INDICATES NIGERIAN ARMY EFFECTIVELY CONTROLS TRANSIT POINTS FROM EASTERN NIGERIA INTO CAMEROON. THEREFORE, CONSUL HAS NOT HAD ANY CONTACT "FOR WEEKS" WITH OVER 100 BRITISH CITIZENS STILL LIVING IN "BIAFRA". HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5795CC SECRET
WHILE SEVERAL THOUSAND REFUGEES FROM BIAFRA WENT INTO CAMEROON DURING EARLY PERIOD OF CIVIL WAR, VERY FEW HAVE GONE RECENTLY AND THAT CAMEROON GOVERNMENT IS HANDLING ITS RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA AND PROBLEMS POSED BY BIAFRA VERY ABUTELY.

SECRET

0382

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/03



Department of State

TELEGRAM

31

Pol 15-1 Biafra

28

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 469

PAGE 01 LONDON 05321 091434Z

53

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INP 07, P

CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, E 15, AID 28, NSA 02, RSR 01,

MM 01, ACDA 16, IO 10, 171 W

R 091345Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1013
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 328

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 5321

FINANCIAL TIMES, JANUARY 9 CARRIES "EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW" WITH PIUS OKIGBO, DESCRIBED AS "CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISER TO BIAFRAN GOVERNMENT". INTERVIEW APPEARS UNDER TITLE "WAR DAMAGE HAS COST BIAFRA 100 MILLION POUNDS". ESSENTIAL TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

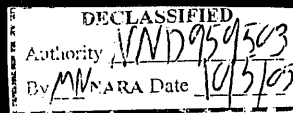
QUOTE. DAMAGE TO BIAFRA AS RESULT OF WAR IS NOW WELL OVER 100 MILLION POUNDS, ACCORDING TO DR. PIUS OKIGBO.
QUOTE. THIS INCLUDES CALABAR AND NKALAGU CEMENT FACTORIES, DESTROYED IN FIGHTING. ONITSHA MARKET (LARGEST IN WEST AFRICA) WHICH WAS SHELLED, AND NSUKKA UNIVERSITY, INCLUDING LIBRARY WHICH HAD BEEN BURNED BY FEDERAL TROOPS.

PAGE 2 RUDTCR 5221 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
QUOTE. ABA TEXTILE FACTORY AND PALM OIL STORAGE FARMS NEAR PORT HARCOURT HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY AERIAL BOMBARDMENT, ACCORDING TO DR. OKIGBO, AND BONY OIL TERMINAL AND PORT HARCOURT OIL REFINERY HAVE BEEN SEVERELY DAMAGED. IT WOULD COST "A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY" TO PUT REFINERY BACK INTO PRODUCTION

2
MICROFILMED BY 85/A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0383





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 05321 091434Z

BUT BIAFRA HAS STORED SUFFICIENT PETROL TO MAKE RATIONING UNNECESSARY "EVEN IF WAR SHOULD LAST TEN YEARS".
QUOTE. REPARATIONS FOR DAMAGE SUFFERED BY BIAFRA OVER PAST 18 MONTHS WOULD HAVE TO FORM PART OF ANY FUTURE SETTLEMENT, HE ARGUED.

QUOTE. DR. OKIGBO ALSO MAINTAINS THAT BIAFRA WAS NOT AKEN BY SURPRISE BY NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF NEW CURRENCY NOTES -- MOVE DESIGNED BY LAGOS TO DEPRIVE BIAFRA OF MEANS TO PURCHASE ARMS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES. HIS GOVERNMENT EXPECTED CHANGE FOR SOME TIME -- IMPLYING STEPS WERE TAKEN DEAL WITH SITUATION. HOWEVER, BIAFRA HAS BEEN PREPARED MEET FORMER EASTERN REGION'S FOREIGN OBLIGATIONS, SUCH AS SERVICING OF INTERNATIONAL LOANS BY TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATE AMOUNTS IN LOCAL CURRENCY TO LAGOS, HE POINTS OUT. FEDERAL AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN UNWILLING RELEASE BIAFRA'S SHARE OF NIGERIA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES TO MEET

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 5321 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESE COMMITMENTS.

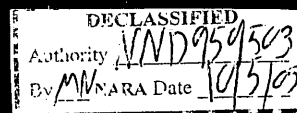
QUOTE. BIAFRA IS IN BETTER POSITION TO WITHSTAND FINANCIAL BURDENS OF WAR THAN LAGOS, WHICH -- ARMS PURCHASES APART -- HAS TO MEET HEAVY BILL FOR IMPORTED CONSUMER GOODS, HE SAYS. IF NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES WERE TO CLAMP DOWN ON THESE IMPORTS THEY WOULD RISK DISSATISFYING POPULATION WITH WHOM WAR WAS FAR FROM POPULAR.

QUOTE. REFERRING TO GENERAL GOWON'S CALL TO 19 PROMINENT BIAFRANS TO RENOUNCE SECESSION AND ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS, DR. OKIGBO ASSERTED THAT NO BIAFRAN OF CONSEQUENCE WILL RESPOND. HOWEVER, HIS GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO TALKS. THERE CAN BE NO SETTLEMENT WHICH DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT

BIAFRA'S SECURITY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED BY A NIGERIAN COMMUNITY. QUOTE. A COMMONWEALTH OR SOME OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORCE AS SUGGESTED FROM TIME TO TIME MIGHT HAVE PART TO PLAY IF IT WAS USED KEEP TWO SIDES APART AS SEPARATE ENTITIES. IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE IF IT WERE TO FORM PART OF NIGERIAN FORCE OF OCCUPATION. END QUOTE. BRUCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0384



66



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
TR POL 29 GER W
Department of State
TELEGRAM

24
11-11-67
4002

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 520

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04002 011817Z

49
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 20, IO 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07

F 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, SAH 03, SAL 01, AID 30,

PSR 01, 160 W

R 011445Z NOV 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU 560
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7979
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1371
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1763

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 4002

REF: LAGOS 3981

SUBJ: REPORTED ARREST GERMAN PILOT IN COTONOU.

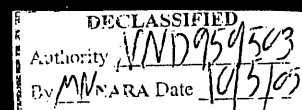
1. RADIO LAGOS TODAY GIVING ADDITIONAL INFO ON ALLEGED
ESCAPE PLANS OF OJUKWU. MAIN NEW POINT IS REPORTED
ARREST GERMAN PILOT ERICH BUNTE IN COTONOU.

2. CAN EMBASSY COTONOU CONFIRM ARREST? OLSON

2

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0385



66



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
TR POL 15-1 BIAFRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 967

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03981 010319Z

R
ACTION AF JB

INFO EUR 20, IO 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, TNR 07,

P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, OPR 02, PC 04, RSR 01, AID 30,

SCS 04, SCA 02, 169 W

.....
R 311715Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7968
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1341
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 286
AMEMBASSY BERN 12
AMEMBASSY BONN 47
RKCNCR/AMEMBASSY COTONOU 559
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 415
AMEMBASSY LISBON 49
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1828
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 530
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 772
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 842
USMISSION USUN NEWYORK 169
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1369
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1759

POL 15-1 BIAFRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 3981

PAGE 2 RUTALS 3981 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SUBJ: OJUKWU'S ALLEGED ESCAPE PLANS

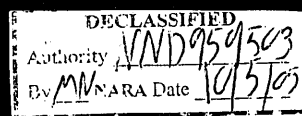
1. FEDERAL INFO COMMISSIONER, CHIEF ANTHONY ENAHORO, IN PRESS

2

MICROFILMED BY 245

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0386



46



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

48
10-21-67
3728

UNCLASSIFIED 388

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03728 211713Z

42
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, SSC 01, SCI 05, E 19, SAL 01, AID 30, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04,
DOD 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, NSA 02, SP 02, SS 20, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10,
L 03, H 02, RSR 01, 175 W

R 211545Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7830
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1311
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1795
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 823
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1337
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1716
DIA UNN
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN

UNCLAS LAGOS 3728

1. AT 0630 LOCAL OCTOBER 21 RADIO "BIAFRA" REPORTED CABINET CHANGES BY HEAD OF STATE COL. OJUKWU (FBIS N210600). DR. OKPARA MADE ADVISER ON POLITICAL MATTERS. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR UYO JAMES UDOFIA APPOINTED MEMBER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND ALSO REPLACED OKPARA AS COMMISSIONER HEALTH AND EDUCATION. YENAGOA PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

PAGE 2 RUDSLC 3728 UNCLAS
N.A. FRANK OKIGBO APPOINTED MEMBER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AS COMMISSIONER RURAL DEVELOPMENT. PORT HARCOURT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR I. AGOMA CHANGED FROM COMMISSIONER RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO LABOR.
2. RADIO REPORTED "OTHER NEW APPOINTMENTS TO PUBLIC OFFICE" AS FOLLOW S

1

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

0387

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 954503
By MM NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

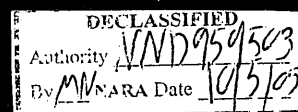
UNCLASSIFIED

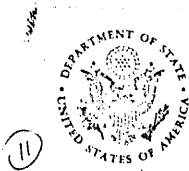
PAGE 02 LAGOS 03728 211713Z

DR. H.E.B. GREEN TO BE CHAIRMAN NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND I. TOGBARA (PHONETIC SPELLING) TO BE MEMBER PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN PLACE A.K. UTCH. DR. A. IKOKU, CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO BE CHAIRMAN OF POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION. MEMBERS POLICE COMMISSION INCLUDE E.I. OLI (PHONETIC), A.K. UTCH AND ATTORNEY GENERAL. RADIO STATED "BOTH CHIEF SECRETARY TO MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL POLICE WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION."
OLSON

UNCLASSIFIED

0388





POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State TELEGRAM

XR POL 15-1 BIAFRA
XR POL 23-9 BIAFRA

UNCLASSIFIED

Kaduna 353

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00353 141519Z

51
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, IO 21, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, NSAE 00, SP 02, SS 35,
GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02, P 04, INR 07, ACDA 17,
AID 30, RSR 01, OPR 02, PC 04, /192 W

P R 131450Z OCT 67
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 504
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1052
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 29
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 001
AMEMBASSY GENEVA 002
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 001
AMEMBASSY LONDON 245
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 019
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 030
AMEMBASSY PARIS 088
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 012
CINCSIRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN
CINCLANT UNN
DIA UNN
AMCONSUL IBADAN 299
STATE GRNC

UNCLAS KADUNA 353

REF LAGOS 3452

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 353KK UNCLAS

SUBJECT: OJUKWU SPEECH OCT 11 TO CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY AT

RECLASSIFIED BY 65/R

3

UNCLASSIFIED

0389

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 9509503
By MNARA Date 10/5/02

3



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
 XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL

ENUGU 575
9-26-67

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00575 270205Z

91-S
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, INR 07, SAH 03,
 ACDA 17, AID 30, SSO 00, NSCE 00, DODE 00, CIAE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00,
 CCO 00, L 03, H 02, P 04, RSR 01, 165 W

O P 261428Z SEP 67 ZFF=4
 FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 707
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1302
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 417
 AMCONSUL IBADAN 355
 AMCONSUL KADUNA 363

C O N F I D E N T I A L ENUGU 575

REF: (A) STATE 38851 (B) STATE 39933 (C) LAGOS 12631
 (D) ENUGU 554

SUBJ: OJUKWU'S LETTER TO ASSISTANT SECY PALMER

1. I SAW OJUKWU FOR TWO HOURS ENDING 0100 LOCAL SEPT 26.
 HE WAS FRESH, ALERT AND CORDIAL AND COMMENTED THAT IT HAD
 BEEN TOO LONG SINCE LAST WE MET.

RECEIVED BY 151

PAGE 2 ENUGU 575GG C O N F I D E N T I A L
 2. TOLD HIM DEPARTMENT HAD ASKED ME TO REPLY IN PERSON HIS
 LETTER TO PALMER SINCE IT NOT POSSIBLE MAKE FORMAL RESPONSE.
 HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND HAD NOT REPEAT NOT EXPECTED
 FORMAL RESPONSE. FROM NOTES I THEN CONVEYED TO HIM POINTS
 (B) THROUGH D OF REF (B). EMPHASIZED THAT WE MUST REGARD
 NIGERIAN CONFLICT AS CIVIL WAR AND NOT REPEAT NOT CONFLICT

2

CONFIDENTIAL

0390

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority VND 959503
 By MNA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ENUGU 00575 270205Z

BETWEEN TWO SOVEREIGN STATES. ALSO STRESSED SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH DEPARTMENT REGARDED UNSPECIFIED ALLEGATIONS AGAINST AMBASSADOR MATHEWS.

3. OJUKWU'S RESPONSE WAS Milder THAN I EXPECTED. HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT CHALLENGE POINT ON CIVIL WAR NOR DID HE COMMENT ON STATEMENT OF WASHINGTON'S CONFIDENCE IN AMBASSADOR MATHEWS.

4. AS FOR SPECIFICATION HIS COMPLAINT AGAINST AMBASSADOR OJUKWU SAID WHEN BIAFRAN ARMY TOOK MIDWEST GOWON HAD MADE DECISION TO MOVE SELF AND HEADQUARTERS TO ZARIA. HE SAID GOWON CHANGED HIS MIND AND REMAINED IN LAGOS AS RESULT DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR MATHEWS. SAID IF GOWON HAD

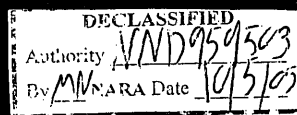
PAGE 3 ENUGU 575GG C O N F I D E N T I A L
GONE TO ZARIA SOVIETS, BELIEVING GOWON WAS LOSING WAR, MIGHT WELL HAVE DECIDED NOT REPEAT NOT TO SEND MIGS TO NIGERIA. WITH GOWON REMAINING IN LAGOS MIGS ARRIVED FIVE DAYS LATER RESULT OF WHICH WILL GREATLY PROLONG WAR AND INCREASE BIAFRAN CASUALTIES. OJUKWU SEEMED CLEARLY MORE CONCERNED WITH THIS SIDE EFFECT THAN WITH SIMPLE FACT THAT GOWON HAD NOT FLED TO ZARIA.

5. I TOLD OJUKWU WHAT PREVIOUSLY SAID TO AKPAN (REF D) THAT I HAD ABSOLUTELY NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PLANS BY GOWON TO GO TO ZARIA OR OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR MATHEWS ON THIS QUESTION. I ASKED OJUKWU WHAT EVIDENCE HE HAD. HIS ANSWER SIMPLY WAS IT CAME FROM A SOURCE OF PROVEN RELIABILITY.

6. I THEN TOOK UP POINT 1E, REF B OF OAU PEACE EFFORTS AND ASKED OJUKWU WHAT HE PREPARED TO DO TO ASSIST. HE SAID HIS POSITION ON PEACE UNCHANGED. BIAFRA WISHED END WAR ASAP BUT HE SAW NO SIMILAR DESIRE ON PART OF GOWON EXCEPT ON GOWON'S OWN TERMS WHICH WERE THAT A! OJUKWU

CONFIDENTIAL

0391





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ENUGU 00575 270205Z

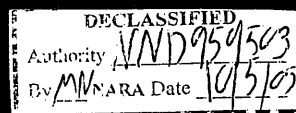
PAGE 4 ENUGU 575GG C O N F I D E N T I A L
MUST GO, B) SECESSION BE RENOUNCED AND C) ACCEPTANCE
GOWON'S CREATION OF 12 STATES. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE
ASKED, WHAT REALLY COULD OAU MEMBERS DO TO PROMOTE PEACE?

7. THE REMAINDER OF OUR LONG DISCUSSION WILL BE REPORTED
SEPTEL.

BARNARD

CONFIDENTIAL

0392





POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR PER MATHEWS, ELBERT G.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00554 231248Z

51

ACTION SS 70

INFO NSCE 00, CIAE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00, /070 W

O P 231114Z SEPT 67 ZFF=4
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 697
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1283
NNFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 411
AMCONSUL IBANDAN 352
AMCONSUL KADUNA 360

C O N F I D E N T I A L ENUGU 554 *Biafra*
SUBJ: OJUKWU LETTER *POL 15-1 B-M Mathewson*
REF: (A) STATE 38851 (B) STATE 39933 (C) LAGOS 2631

1. ON EVENING SEPT 22 SHOWED CHIEFSEC AKPAN TEXT OF OJUKWU LETTER (REF A) AND ASKED WHAT HE COULD TELL ME ABOUT IT. AKPAN READ LETTER WITH GREAT INTEREST, SAYING ALTHOUGH HE HAD HEARD OF IT THIS FIRST TIME HE HAD SEEN TEXT. SAID LETTER HAD BEEN DRAFTED IN FONMIN AND SENT WITHOUT CLEARING WITH

PAGE 21 ENUGU 554GG C O N F I D E N T I A L
AKPAN. (FROM ITS TONE ONE SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED AN ONYEBBULA CONNECTION.)

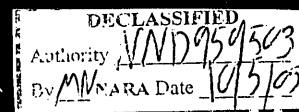
2. I ASKED AKPAN IF HE KNEW WHAT WAS SPECIFICATION OF COMPLAINT THAT AMB MATHEWS HAD INTERVENED IN GOWON'S PLANS. SAID THIS NOT RPT NOT SORT OF ALLEGATION WASHINGTON COULD TAKE LIGHTLY, PARTICULARLY WHEN HANDLED IN MANNER IT WAS, WITH THREAT OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND REPRISALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

ENUGU 554

9-23-67

0393





Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ENUGU 00554 231248Z

EM AKPAN AGREED THAT MATTER HAD BEEN HANDLED BADLY AND THAT COMPLAINT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPECIFIED AND TREATED AS PRIVATE WITHOUT THREAT OF DISCLOSURE.

4. AS TO SPECIFICATION, AKPAN SAID IT BELIEVED IN STATE HOUSE THAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER BIAFRAN ENTRY INTO MIDWEST GOWON PLANNED TO MOVE HIS HEADQUARTERS TO ZARIA, FEARING LAGOS UNSAFE FOR FMG. BELIEF IS THAT GOWON TALKED OUT OF THIS BY SIR DAVID HUNT AND AMB MATHEWS. AKPAN RECALLED THAT BRITISH HICO ER AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAD ALSO TALKED NORTH OUT OF SECESSION FOLLOWING JULY 1966 ARMY MUTINY.

PAGE 3 ENUGU 554GG C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. I SAID I KNEW NOTHING WHATSOEVER ABOUT ANY GOWON PLANS TO MOVE HEADQUARTERS TO NORTH AFTER MIDWEST TAKEN, NOR WAS I AWARE OF ANY DISCUSSION BETWEEN GOWON AND AMB MATHEWS ON THE SUBJECT.

6. AKPAN AGREED I SHOULD SEE OJUKWU ON THIS MATTER, WHICH I WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO. MY OWN FEELING IS THAT MEETING SHOULD NOT BE BEFORE EARLY NEXT WEEK WHEN THINGS SETTLE DOWN A BIT. HOWEVER I WILL REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT FOR ASAP.

GP -3 BARNARD

NOTE: HANDLED LIMDIS PER S/S-0.

CONFIDENTIAL

0394

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM
POL 15-1 BIAFRA

SECRET

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00547 212028Z

89

ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, RSR 01, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00, CIAE 00, AID 30,

PC 04, SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02,

P 04, INR 07, IO 21, SR 01, ORM 03, /177 W

P 211555Z SEP 67
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 691
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1275
AMEMBASSY LONDON 405
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN PRIORITY 347
AMCONSUL KADUNA 355
AMEMBASSY PARIS 134
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 183
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 150
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 64
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN
DIA UNN

SECRET ENUGU 547

DEPT PASS IBS NEWS

PAGE 2 RUTANU 547GG SECRET
REF: ENUGU 535, 541

OUR COMMENTS ON REORGANIZATION OF BIAFRA GOVT:

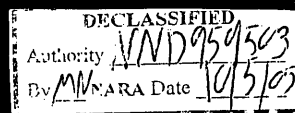
1. EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL INCLUDES APPOINTMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS TO HEAD MINISTRIES EXCEPT FINANCE, DEFENSE, AND ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES; RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE

SECRET

ENUGU 547

S-21-67

0395





Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 02 ENUGU 00547 212028Z

THREE SENSITIVE MINISTRIES WILL BE RETAINED BY MILGOV'S OFFICE. WE EXPECT COMMISSIONERS WILL HAVE MINISTERIAL FUNCTION THUS FREEING OJUKWU TO CONCENTRATE ON PROSECUTION OF WAR EFFORT AND VERY IMPORTANT PETROLEUM MATTERS.

2. APPOINTMENTS OF OKPARA, MOJEKWU, MBU AND IHENACHO WILL GIVE FORMAL POLICY MAKING RESPONSIBILITY TO MEN OF CONSIDERABLE ABILITY, INFLUENCE AND EXPERIENCE IN GOVT AFFAIRS. OKPARA IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION, AND MOJEKWU IN HOME AFFAIRS AND LOCAL GOVT WILL HOLD PORTFOLIOS WHICH PROBABLY IN MIND OF AVERAGE MAN PROVIDE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF PRESENT GOVT SERVICES.

3. OKPARA'S APPOINTMENT AS COMMISSIONER HEALTH AND EDUCATION IS FIRST PUBLIC OFFICE HELD SINCE BEING DEPOSED AS

PAGE 3 RUTANU 54766 S E C R E T
PREMIER EASTERN REGION BY JANUARY 1966 ARMY COUP. IN 1954-57 HE WAS HEALTH MINISTER IN AZIKIWE GOVT AND IS STRONG PROPONENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

4. MOJEKWU HAS BEEN CLOSE ADVISOR TO MILGOV OJUKWU ALMOST FROM BEGINNING OF MILGOVT BUT THIS ALSO HIS FIRST PUBLIC OFFICE SINCE JANUARY COUP ENDED HIS TERM AS OKPARA'S MINISTER OF JUSTICE. HE IS CHIEF ARCHITECT OF BIAFRAN SYSTEM OF PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION WHICH WAS ADOPTED IN LATE 1966 IN ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF EASTERN MINORITY SEPARATISM. ALTHOUGH MOJEKWU VERY MUCH AN IBO HE RECOGNIZED VALIDITY OF MINORITIES COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION BY ALL POWERFUL CBO DOMINATED REGIONAL GOVT. HTROVINCIAL ADMIN SYSTEM PUTS MORE AUTHORITY AND RESOURCES IN HANDS OF LOCAL GOVTS WHICH IN THEORY AT LEAST WILL BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO LOCAL NEEDS.

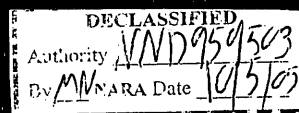
5. MBU SHOULD GIVE MUCH NEEDED BALANCE TO FOMIN AND HOPEFULLY CURB THE ACTIVITIES OF PERMSEC ONYEBULA ABOUT WHICH RDHC AND CONSULATE HAVE REPORTED MUCH. WE REGARD MBU AS GOOD FRIEND OF BOTH US AND UK.

LTP

PAGE 4 RUTANU 54766 S E C R E T

SECRET

0396





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 03 ENUGU 00547 212028Z

6. CHIEF SEC AKPAN CLAIMS TO HAVE HAD STRONG HAND IN PERSUADING OJUKWU TO ESTABLISH POSTS OF COMMISSIONERS AND IN WHOM APPOINTED TO THEM. WE KNOW THAT FOR SOME TIME AKPAN HAS WANTED TO HAVE MINISTERIAL ROLES REESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE BETTER DEFINED RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY. MORE THAN ANYONE AKPAN HAS RECOGNIZED OJUKWU'S VULNERABILITY WITHOUT DISPENSABLE MINISTERS AVAILABLE TO TAKE BLAME FOR SERIOUS POLICY FAILURES. ALSO AKPAN HAS LONG WANTED TO BREAK UP SYSTEM OF INFORMAL ADVISORS WHO HAVE COME BETWEEN HIM AND OJUKWU. HE TOLD BDHC PARKER HE EXPECTS COMMISSIONERS WILL CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT IN TERMS OF SPECIAL INFLUENCE ON OJUKWU.

7. THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIG IMO AS COMMISSIONER FORESTRY AND ANIMAL HEALTH INDICATES SHAKEUP IN ARMY COMMAND, FULL DETAILS OF WHICH NOT YET MADE PUBLIC. WE UNDERSTAND BRIG HILARY NJOKU SLATED FOR COMMISSIONER WORKS BUT THAT OJUKWU WAITING TO ANNOUNCE THIS. SKLTHOUGH DISSATISFACTION WITH RECENT BIAFRAN ARMY PERFORMANCE FAIRLY WIDE AMONG INFORMED PEOPLE, NJOKU APPARENTLY STILL HAS ENOUGH FOLLOWING

PAGE 5 RUTANU 547GG S E C R E T
TO CAUSE MILGOV TO HANDLE HIM WITH CAUTION.
BARNARD

SECRET

0397

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02728 201127Z

8
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, IO 21, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00,

CCO 00, SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04,

INR 07, AID 30, RSR 01, 166 W

O P 201050Z SEP 67 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMCONSUL ENUGU IMMEDIATE 2099
SECSTATE WASHDC 7292
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1647
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1238
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1584

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2728

REF: STATE 399331 ENUGU 533

EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION TO BARNARD REVIEWING
LETTER WITH AKPAN FIRST.

GP-3.
MATHEWS

RECEIVED 21 SEP 67

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

0398

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05

3

POL 15-1 BIAFRA 040450

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

2037Z
RM
20 Dec 67 1600Z
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin	ACTION: Amconsul ENUGU IMMEDIATE
Info:	INFO : Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
	" LONDON "
	Amconsul IBADAN "
	" KADUNA "

Ref: Enugu 533; State 39933

Department has no objection to your seeing Akpan first.

740456

5

KATZENBACH

Drafted by: AF:AFW:RPSmith:ba 9/20/67	Tel. Ext. 6402	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AFW - Roy M. Melbourne
Clearances:		

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

0399

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD954503
By MVA Date 10/5/03



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

ENUGU 533

9-20-67

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00533 201038Z

12
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, IO 21, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00,
CCO 00, SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04,
INR 07, AID 30, RSR 01, /166 W

O P 200942Z SEP 67 ZFF-4
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 683
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1261
INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 398
RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN 343
RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUNA 351
STATE GRNC

S E C R E T ENUGU 533

REF: STATE 39933

SUBJ: OJUKWU LETTER

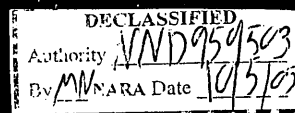
1. I WILL SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH OJUKWU ASAP ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME DELAY IN LIGHT DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED BY PARKER IN ENUGU 532.
2. IN PAST HAVE FOUND IT VERY USEFUL TO HAVE PRELIMINARY

PAGE 2 ENUGU 533GG S E C R E T
DISCUSSION WITH AKPAN IN ORDER DETERMINE BEST TACTIC OF THE MOMENT FOR DEALING WITH MILGOV. WOULD DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY PERCEIVE OBJECTION TO MY SEEING AKPAN FIRST ON SUBJECT OF LETTER? I WILL OF COURSE INSIST ON SEEING

MICROFILMED BY ES/R

SECRET

0400





Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 02 ENUGU 00533 201038Z

OJUKWU IN ANY EVENT NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE LETTER BUT
ALSO BECAUSE I HAVE NOT BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM FOR
SEVERAL WEEKS.

BARNARD

SECRET

0401

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State POL 15-1 BIAFRA
TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00535 201417Z

46
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02,
IO 21, ACDA 17, AID 30, P 04, INR 07, SSC 01, RSR 01, SSO 00, CCO 00,
CIAE 00, NSCE 00, NSAE 00, USIE 00, /187 W

P 201130Z SEP 67
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 684
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1263
AMEMBASSY LONDON 399
INFO AOCONSUL IBADAN PRIORITY 344
AMCONSUL KADUNA 352
AMEMBASSY PARIS 131
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 181
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 147
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 62
RUEOPSA/CINCMEAFSA/CINCSTRIKE
DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ENUGU 535

DEPT PASS IBS NEWS

PAGE 2 RUTANU 535 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
1. ENUGU PRESS AND RADIO GIVING MAJOR COVERAGE OF "NEW AND
ENLARGED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA" CREATED
BY MILGOV OJUKWU SEPTEMBER 19. COUNCIL UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP
OF MILGOV, COMPOSED OF:

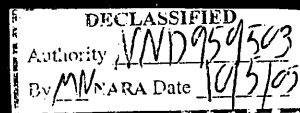
A) N.O. AKPAN, CHIEF ZHCRETARY (IBIBIO)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ENUGU 535

9-20-67

0402





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ENUGU 00535 201417Z

B) J. I. EMBOLU, ATTORNEY GENERAL (IBO)
C) P. I. OKEKE, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE (IBO)
D) DR. ALVAN IKOKU, CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (IBO)
E) C. C. MORDI, CHAIRMAN, MARKETING BOARD (IBO)
F) BRIG. U. O. IMO, COMMISSIONER FORESTRY-ANIMAL HEALTH (IBO)
G) DR. M. I. OKPARA, COMMISSIONER HEALTH-EDUCATION (IBO)
H) C. C. MOJEKWU, COMMISSIONER HOME AFFAIRS-LOCAL GOVT (IBO)
I) M. T. MBU, COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (OGOJA)
MAJ) F. O. IHENACHO, COMMISSIONER TRANSPORT-COMMUNICATIONS (IBO)
K) E. A. BASSEY, COMMISSIONER FOR LANDS AND SURVEYS (EFIK)
L) E. AGUMA, COMMISSIONER RURAL DEVELOPMENT (IBO)
M) EYO BASSEY NDEM, COMMISSIONER AGRICULTURE (EFIK)
N) DR. S. COOKEY, COMMISSIONER COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (RIVERS)
O) DR. I. U. EKE, COMMISSIONER INFORMATION (IBO)

PAGE 3 RUTAN 535 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
2. MILGOV'S OFFICE RETAINS RESPONSIBILITY FOR
MINISTRIES
OF DEFENCE, FINANCE, AND ENERGY-MINERAL RESOURCES.
L3. OTHER APPOINTMENTS:

A) C. C. ONOH, ADMINISTRATOR OF ENUGU (IBO)
B) DR. H. E. B. GREEN, ADMINISTRATOR OF PORT HARCOURT (RIVERS)
C) DR. EYO ITA, CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF BIAFRA (EFIK)
D) DR. S. U. UGOH, GOVERNOR, BANK OF BIAFRA (IBO)

4. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER FOR WORKS AND ADMINISTRATORS
FOR ANNANG, CALABAR AND OPCO ARE TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

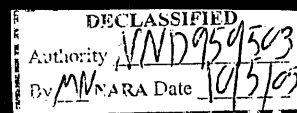
5. COMMENT
IN SEPTTEL.

DECON ON RECEIPT.

BARNARD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0403



3

POL 15-1 BIAFRA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

XR PER MATHEWS, ELBERT G.

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1967 07 22 422

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amconsul ENUGU IMMEDIATE
Amembassy LAGOS "

INFO : Amembassy LONDON PRIORITY
Amconsul IBADAN "
" KADUNA "

Ref: Lagos 2631, State 38851

Subj: Ojukwu Letter

1. Dept. concurs paras. two and three reftel. Barnard should therefore seek earliest opportunity discuss letter with Ojukwu or highest available alternative. Unless Embassy perceives objection, Barnard should draw on following points for discussion:

a. For reasons Ojukwu should understand no formal reply his communication should be expected.

b. USG cannot accept allegations against Amb. Mathews, not only because of their vagueness, but because they appear to ~~proceed~~ ^(proceed) from unacceptable premises. USG does not consider itself a neutral in a conflict between two sovereign states as letter implies but rather has chosen not to become involved in arms supply in an internal conflict within territory of only sovereign entity which it recognizes, i.e. FMG.

c. Amb. Mathews has complete confidence of USG. He is merely trying his best to carry out USG policy in difficult situation.

RECORDED BY 653

6

Drafted by: AF:JPalmer/AFW:RPSmith:ba 9/18/67
Clearances: 5374
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd

U - Mr. Katzenbach

S/S - Mr. Meehan

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0404

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959503
By: MNARA Date: 10/5/03

Page 2 of telegram to ENUGU, LAGOS, LONDON, IBADAN, KADUNA

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

d. If Ojukwu has specific complaints about representative of USG, he would be better advised to discuss them with us privately and frankly ~~threatening~~ than to adopt ~~threatening~~ tone of public disclosure and reprisals.

~~Information concerning the above is being furnished to the USG for its information.~~
In this connection, ~~information~~ he should know that USG does not react well to threats.

e. Rather than dissipating time and effort in apparent attempt discredit representative of this Government, USG believes Ojukwu would be better advised divert his energy to trying to promote peaceful resolution Nigeria's problems. In particular USG believes recent OAU decision opens up possibility constructive African interest in Nigeria's problems and therefore urges Ojukwu do everything he can to nurture the possibilities of steering this OAU initiative towards a peaceful settlement.

RUSK

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

0405

37

POL 15-1 BIAFRA

038851

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

PER MATHEWS, ELBERT G.

17 SEP 67 01 53 Z

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

Info

INFO: Amconsul ENUGU
Amconsul IBADAN
Amconsul KADUNA

STATE

SUBJ: Ojukwu ~~letter~~ Ltr to Palmer

Law firm Washington representing QTE Republic of Biafra UNQTE delivered
Sept 16 to Dept following QTE ~~in~~ Top Secret UNQTE letter addressed to
Assistant Secretary Palmer: (~~in~~ unnecessary words omitted)

QTE Dear Mr. Secretary, I wish to express my appreciation for US official
policy of neutrality in Nigeria-Biafra crisis. Much as I think we in
Biafra entitled to sympathy and support, since we fighting for those values
of freedom and security of which US is world's leading exponent, I have
been content not press issue in conviction that cause of free world which
we expouse will eventually prevail.

I have, however, noted with great concern some acts of your Ambassador
in Lagos, His Excellency Mr. Elbert Matthews, perhaps under pressure from
British High Commissioner, Sir David Hunt, which have effect of compromising
this policy. In particular, their recent intervention on Lt.Col. Gowon's
plans, immediately after the entry of Biafran Liberation Forces in Mid-West,
has not only had the effect of prolonging war and thereby increasing

Drafted by:
AF:AFSE:TAFain:esw 9/16/67

Tel. Ext.
6261

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

S/S-O - C. Gendreau

Clearances:

AFW - Mr. R. Smith (substance)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

FORM
8-63 DS-322

0406

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 959503
By MWA Date 10/5/03

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

bloodshed, but has now encouraged Communist intervention on behalf
Lagos authority with its grave consequences for free world in Africa.
(Para) Mr. Secretary, it is my intention to release publicly to local ~~media~~
and world press details of this action. It is because of high esteem
I have for you and US that I have decided give you prior information
before taking this step. So far, my Govt has been scrupulous in
treating American interests and investments differently from those of,
for instance, British Shell B.P., but acts of this nature may make it
impossible us to continue maintain this position. I hope earnestly,
therefore, that consideration for one man would not allow this to
happen and thereby imperil Biafra Govt's commitment and resolution to
secure American private investment and provide favorable climate for
it to thrive.
Please allow me, Mr. Secretary, to convey to you assurances of my
highest consideration and esteem.

Lt.Col. C. Odumegwu Ojukwu,
Head of State and Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces,
Republic of Biafra. UNQTE

END

RUSK

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

0407

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <u>VND 954563</u>
By <u>MW</u> NARA Date <u>10/5/05</u>



POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR PER MATHEWS, ELBERT G.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02631 171117Z

12
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00, CCO 00,

SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02, IO 21,

P 04, INR 07, AID 30, PC 15, OPR 02, SR 01, 186 W

O P 17:036Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7238
INFO AMCONSUL ENUGU PRIORITY 2078
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1632
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1230
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1573

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2631CC

REF: STATE 38851

SUBJ: OJUKWU LTR TO PALMER

1. COMMENTS ABOUT MY ACTIONS IN OJUKWU'S LETTER ARE
SINGULARLY UNSPECIFIC. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HE IS TALKING
ABOUT. REFERENCE TO SIR DAVID HUNT AND "THEIR RECENT INTER-
VENTION" AFTER ENTRY OF "BIAFRAN LIBERATION FORCES IN MID-
WEST" COULD REFER TO REAFFIRMATION OF BRITISH POLICY OF

2

PAGE 2 RUTALS 2631CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
CONTINUING TO SELL ARMS TO NIGERIA ON NORMAL BASIS.

2. ASSUME OJUKWU LETTER WILL NOT RPT NOT BE DIGNIFIED BY
ANY REPLY FROM DEPT.

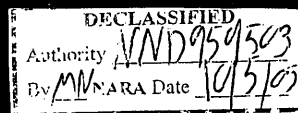
MICROFILMED BY RS/R

CONFIDENTIAL

LAGOS 2631

9-17-67

0408





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 02631 171117Z

3. SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT BARNARD BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE IT KNOWN TO HIGHEST QUARTERS IN ENUGU THAT SUCH TACTICS WILL NOT RPT NOT DO THEM ANY GOOD.

4. BRITISH HC LAGOS REGARDS SEIZURE OF DHC RADIO AND OTHER PRESSURE ON THEM IN ENUGU AS CRUDEST FORM OF BACKMAIL. NOW OJUKWU LETTER TO PALMER INDICATES THESE EXTREME PRESSURES ARE, AS HUNT TOLD C.O. (LAGOS 2620), PART OF "DELIBERATE CAMPAIGN" WHICH PROBABLY HAS APPROVAL OF OJUKWU HIMSELF. IT IS ALSO A MEASURE OF THEIR DESPERATION. MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

0409

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/03



3

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
XR POL 15-1 BIAFRA

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ENUGU 00320 111437Z

43
ACTION AF 21

INFO EUR 25, IO 21, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, NSAE 00, RSR 01, SP 02,
SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, AID 30, ACDA 17, SR 01, ORM 03,
SCA 02, P 04, INR 07, CCO 00, SAH 02, /186 W

O P 111135Z AUG 67 ZFF-4
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 582
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1052
AMEMBASSY LONDON 344
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 144
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 98
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 98
AMCONSUL IBADAN 299
AMCONSUL KADUNA 312
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN
CINCLANT UNN
DIA UNN

UNCLAS ENUGU 320/1

SECTION 1 OF 2

1. IN LENGTHY MIDNIGHT RADIO ADDRESS AUGUST 10/11, M.
ILGOV OJUKWU
REVIEWED COURSE OF WAR, COMMENTED ON LIBERATION OF MEDWEST,
ATTACKED COUNTRIES AIDING NIGERIA, WARNED EXPATRIATES TO LEAVE

PAGE 2 RUTANU 320/166 UNCLAS
LAGOS, ADDED THAT FOREIGN SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT SHOULD AVOID
LAGOS, AND STATED THAT, IN CONCERT WITH THE UN AND OAU,
BIAFRA WISHES TO CONTRIBUTE TO "UPLIFTMENT AND BETTERMENT OF
ALL AFRICA." SUMMARY OF DETAILS FOLLOWS.

2

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

UNCLASSIFIED

ENUGU 320

8-11-67

0410

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959/503
By MVA Date 10/5/00

3

POL 15-1 BIAFRA
INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*
XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

84
Action

AF VZCZCEIB349
Info 00 RUDICR RUEDNKA RUEDPSA RUEHC RUEPJS RUFNCR
ZNY SSSSS (ZDG)
TAA717VV NHA776
SS 00 RUDICR RUEDNKA RUEDPSA RUEHC RUEPJS RUFNCR
GPM DE RUTANU 164GG 1991805
SP ZNY SSSSS
SC O R 181735Z JUL 67
SAH FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
L TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
H RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
EUR RUDICR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
IO INFO RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
P RUTAHN/AMEMBASSY ACCRA
NSC RIQSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
INR RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
ACDA RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
AID RUEPJS/DIA
PC RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN
BT RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUNA
STATE GRNC
BT
SECRET ENUGU 164

016039
1967 JUL 18 PM 8

ENUGU-164

7-18-67

RSE
RSC

1. BRIT DHC PARKER AND I SAW OJUKWU 1300Z JULY 16 AFTER TWO POSTPONEMENTS EARLIER SCHEDULED MEETINGS. OJUKWU LOOKED FRESH AND RELAXED, LEADING US TO SUSPECT POSTPONEMENTS WERE BECAUSE

HE TOO TIRED TO SEE US AT FIRST.

2. ON TACTICAL MILITARY SITUATION, OJUKWU CONFIRMED BIAFRAN FORCES HAD WITHDRAWN FROM NORTHEAST OGOJA PROVINCE TO LINE WHICH HE DID NOT LOCATE FOR US BUT WHICH WE CONTINUE THINK IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN BANSARA AND OGOJA TOWN. OJUKWU AGAIN INDICATED HE REGARDS OGOJA FRONT AS HOLDING OPERATION WHILE HE DEALS WITH MAIN FMG EFFORT IN NSUKKA SECTOR.

3. FROM OJUKWU AND FROM OTHERS WE GATHER THAT NSUKKA FRONT IS MORE CONFUSING THAN CRITICAL. HE SAID NSUKKA TOWN HAD BEEN NEEDLESSLY ABANDONED BY BIAFRAN TROOPS AND THEN REOCCUPIED AFTER FMG TROOPS HAD FAILED FOLLOW UP OPPORTUNITY HANDED THEM. APPARENTLY THERE MUCH MOVEMENT BY UNITS BOTH SIDES WHO FREQUENTLY FIND SELVES UNEXPECTEDLY CHASING EACH OTHERS TAILS TO MUTUAL

SECRET

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

0411

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-2- ENUGU 164 7/18/67

CONSTERNATION. FMG TROOPS HAD ADVANCED ALONG ROAD TO POINT SOUTH OF NSUKKA WHILE BIAFRANS MOVING NORTH ON BOTH SIDES TO CUT OFF FMG ADVANCE.

4. FROM OJUKWU'S CAREFUL REMARKS, AS WELL AS FROM OTHER SOURCES

INCLUDING CHIEFSEC N.U. AKPAN, IT EVIDENT OJUKWU FACING MANY PROBLEMS IN MILITARY SPERE WHICH PREDICTABLE AND NORMAL TO SITUATION THIS TYPE. WITH DECIDED TONE OF REALISM, OJUKWU SPOKE OF DIFFICULTIES OF CONTROLLING GREEN TROOPS IN BATTLE. MENTIONED BIAFRAN PETROL AND AMMUNITION STORES ABANDONED WITHOUT DESTRUCTION, OF WHICH PETROL PARTICULARLY USEFUL TO FEDERAL TROOPS. HE SAID HE HAS LEARNED THERE DEFINITE LIMITS TO WHAT

HE CAN DEMAND OF BIAFRAN TROOPS GIVEN PRESENT LEVEL OF DISCIPLINE AND COMBAT EXPERIENCE, AND NOW HE IS NOT RPT NOT PLANING ANYTHING VERY AMBITIOUS FOR THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO. (AKPAN TOLD PARKER THERE HAVE BEEN SOME PROBLEMS AT THE COMMAND LEVELS. NOT SURPRISINGLY IN ANY ARMY NEVER BEFORE IN BATTLE, SOME OFFICERS HAVE SHOWN THEMSELVES UNFIT FOR COMBAT COMMAND WHILE OTHERS MAKING DISTINGUISHED RECORDS. WE GATHER A RIGOROUS SORTING OUT IS IN PROCESS.)

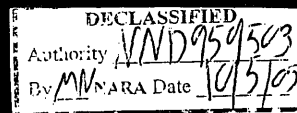
5. OJUKWU APPARENTLY INTENDS TO SPEND THE NEXT TWO WEEKS STRENGTHENING THE COMMAND AND CONTROL OF HIS ARMY, IMPROVING HIS COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPLY POSITIONS, AND HARASSING FMG FORCES WITH HIT AND RUN TACTICS. HE SEEMS TO BE CALCULATING

THAT ANOTHER TWO WEEKS ON THE LINE WILL SERIOUSLY WEAKEN FMG FORCES WHICH DID NOT PREPARE FOR A CAMPAIGN OF MORE THAN A FEW DAYS DURATION AND WHICH HE SAID ARE NOW FACING SERIOUS MATERIDG AND MORAL PROBLEMS. AFTER TWO WEEKS, ACCORDING TO PRESENT TIME TABLE, WE FAIRLY CERTAIN OJUKWU INTENDS MAJOR PUSH TO BEN NE.

6. WE ASKED OJUKWU ABOUT THE BROADCAST BY THE "PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER AND POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF THE BIAFRAN ARMY" (ENUGU 131). TOLD HIM SUCH BROADCASTS HAVE WAY OF REACHING WASHINGTON AND LONDON VERY QUICKLY AND THAT WE EXPECTED QUESTIONS ABOUT BROADCAST ANY MOMENT (STATE 7977) OJUKWU GAVE US BUDDHA.

SECRET

0412



INCOMING TELEGRAM SECRET

CORRECTION ISSUED:
JULY 19, 1967, 5:55 A.M. k1
CONTROL 16039

53 -3- ENUGU 164, JULY 18, 1967, CORRECTED PAGE 3

AF LIKE SMILE AFD SAID MERELY THAT BROADCAST WAS FOR SPECIAL PURPOSE, WHICH PURPOSE ACCOMPLISHED. (WE BELIEVE LATEST ANE REPORT THIS SUBJECT BEST EXPLANATION WE HAVE. WHY THE PARTICULAR COMMIE TYPE LANGUAGE WAS EMPLOYED IS NOT CLEAR HOWEVER, BEYOND FACT THAT ALALE HIMSELF IS A COMMIE. POINT OF BROADCAST--THAT SS CONFUSION IN NSUKKA WAS BECAUSE OF TREACHERY AND NOT BECAUSE OF GPM BLUNDERS--DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED BY USE OF SP COMMUNIST OVERTONES.)

SC
SAH

L PAGE 5 RUTANU 164GG S E C R E T

H 7. SINCE SEEING OJUKWU ON SUNDAY, ALL EVIDENCE WE HAVE SUP-
EUR PORTS CONCLUSIONS THAT LOW POINT IN BIAFRAN MILITARY FORTUNES
IO WAS ON SATURDAY JULY 15, AND THAT SITUATION WAS AND IS VERY
P MUCH AS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND IMPROVING. FOREIGN PRESS HAS BEEN
NSC VERY BUSY IN ENUGU TRYING TO GET MAKINGS OF STORIES. CORRES-
INR PONDENTS EXTREMELY FRUSTRATED BY OJUKWU'S DENYING THEM ACCESS
ACDA TO NEWS AFD ARE PLANNING LEAVE EN MASSE IN NEXT DAY OR SO
AID UNLESS THINGS CHANGE. THEY ALL AGREE HOWEVER THAT HE NOT RPT
PC NOT ATTEMPTING CONCEAL DISASTER BUT THAT HE TRYING HOLD DOWN
NEWS OUTPUT UNTIL HE CAN ANNOUNCE DRAMATIC SUCCESSES WHICH
CORRESPONDENTS BELIEVE QUITE POSSIBLE IN NEXT WEEK OR SO.

RSR 8. TO CONCLUDE, NIGERIA'S CIVIL WAR IS BY NO MEANS OVER, AND
RSC THE LONGER IT DRAGS ON THE MORE CONFIDENT OJUKWU AND HIS CLOSED
ADVISORS APPEAR TO BE ACHIEVING THEIR OBJECTIVE OF ESTABLISH-

ING BIAFRA AS AN INDEPENDENT, VIABLE NATION. WHETHER THIS CONFIDENCE IS
JUSTIFIED IS STILL UNPROVEN. THEY STILL WORRY
ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTERNAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TIPPING
THE SCALES IN FAVOR OF FMG, BUT SHORT OF THIS BIAFRANS THINK
THEY CAN MAKE IT. THIS CONFIDENCE HAS BEEN VERY EVIDENT AMONG

PAGE 6 RUTANU 164GG S E C R E T
THE PUBLIC IN THE PAST THREE DAYS.
GP-1. BARNARD
BT

NOTE: CORRECTED ADVANCE COPY SENT TO S/S-O JULY 19, 1967
PASSED CORRECTED COPY TO WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA
JULY 19, 1967

SECRET

0413

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-3- ENUGU 164 7/18/67

LIKE SMILE AND SAID MERELY THAT BROADCAST WAS FOR SPECIAL PURPOSE, WHICH PURPOSE ACCOMPLISHED.

WE BELIEVE LATAWT ANE REPORT THIS SUBJECT BEST EXPLANATION WE HAVE. WHY THE PARTICULAR COMMIE TYPE LANGUAGE WAS EMPLOYED IS NOT CLEAR HOWEVER, BEYOND FACT THAT ALALE HIMSELF IS A COMMIE. POINT OF BROADCAST--THAT CONFUSION AT NSUKKA WAS BECAUSE OF TREACHERY AND NOT BECAUSE OF BLUNDERS--DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED BY USE OF COMMUNIST OVERTONES.)

7. SINCE SEEING OJUKWU ON SUNDAY, ALL EVIDENCE WE HAVE SUPPORTS CONCLUSIONS THAT LOW POINT IN BIAFRAN MILITARY FORTUNES WAS ON SATURDAY JULY 15, AND THAT SITUATION WAS AND IS VERY MUCH AS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND IMPROVING. FOREIGN PRESS HAS BEEN VERY BUSY IN ENUGU TRYING TO GET MAKINGS OF STORIES. CORRES-

PONDENTS EXTREMELY FRUSTRATED BY OJUKWU'S DENYING THEM ACCESS TO NEWS AND ARE PLANNING LEAVE EN MASSE IN NEXT DAY OR SO UNLESS THINGS CHANGE. THEY ALL AGREE HOWEVER THAT HE NOT RPT NOT ATTEMPTING CONCEAL DISASTER BUT THAT HE TRYING HOLD DOWN NEWS OUTPUT UNTIL HE CAN ANNOUNCE DRAMATIC SUCCESSES WHICH CORRESPONDENTS BELIEVE QUITE POSSIBLE IN NEXT WEEK OR SO.

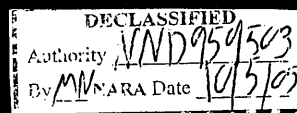
8. TO CONCLUDE (#)
PAGE 6 RUTANII 164GG SECRET
THE PUBLIC IN THE PAST THREE DAYS.
GP-1. BARNARD
BT

(#)-OMISSION. CORRECTION FOLLOWS.

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY DELIVERED TO S/S-O 7/18/67 8:38 PM.
PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 9:30 PM.

SECRET

0414



POL 15-1 BIAFRA

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

12

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE [11]

Action

AF

Info

GPM

SP

SC

L

EUR

IO

P

USIA

INR

CIA

NSA

AID

E

COM

VZCZCEIC972VV TAA709
LSA773
RR RUOTCR RUEBPSA RUENC RUEHDT RUEPJS
DE RUTALS 10383CC 17017:
ZNY CCCCC
R 191645Z JUN 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUEHDT/USUN
RUOTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUEBPSA/CINCPAC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEPJS/DIA
RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN

ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA
STATE GRMC
BT

015955

15 JUN 67 PM 8 50

RSR

RSC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 10383

DEPT PASS USIA

1. FRONT PAGE OF TODAY'S MORNING POST, LAGOS DAILY OWNED
BY FED GOVT, FEATURES REPRODUCTION OF PHOTOSTATIC COPY

OF LETTER TO OJUKWU. LETTER SENT BY "EUGENE KERNO, ATTORNEY
AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, 216 WEST 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, 24,
NEW YORK". ADDRESSED TO "COLONEL CHUKUEMEKA ODUMEGWU OJUKWU,
CHIEF OF THE IBO TRIBESMEN, CITY OF ENUGU, EASTERN NIGERIA,
REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA". LETTER READS: "WITH INTEREST I READ
IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ABOUT YOUR EFFORTS TO SECURE
MORE RIGHTS FOR YOUR PEOPLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, FROM
A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW, MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND
OFFER FOR SALE A BEAUTIFUL TOWN HOUSE, CENTRALLY LOCATED
IN THE FASHIONABLE EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN, CITY OF NEW YORK,
NOT FAR AWAY FROM THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS BUILDING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0415

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/03

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

-2-LAGOS 10383 JUN 19, 1967

IS SUITABLE FOR EMBASSY, UNITED NATIONS DELEGATION, CONSULATE, ANY REPRESENTATION, TOURIST ADVERTISING CENTER--OR SIMPLY FOR GRACIOUS LIVING--AND HAS OFFICE, MEETING AND LIVING FACILITIES AND COMPLETE PRIVACY. BESIDES, THIS PURCHASE WOULD REPRESENT AN EXTRAORDINARY GOOD INVESTMENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE MARKET. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE TO YOU AND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK. YOUR EARLY REPLY WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. VERY RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

EUGENE KERNO."

2. IN ITS USUAL IRRESPONSIBLE FASHION, POST SAYS LETTER CONFIRMS "WHAT AFRICANS SHOULD HAVE ALREADY KNOWN", THAT MAJOR POWERS "USUALLY MORE INTERESTED IN THEIR OWN TRADE OR COMMERCE THAN INTERNAL STABILITY OF UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS OF WORLD." (COMMENT: USIS AND EMBASSY OFFICERS PLAN TO RIDICULE THIS SHABBY STORY IN PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS WITH FMG OFFICIALS.)

3. POST STATES THAT BEHIND EASTERN REBELLION IS PERSONAL AMBITION OF OJUKWU. IT ACCUSES HIM OF SPENDING "MORE THAN 68 PERCENT OF THE REGION'S REVENUE" TO BUILD UP HIS OWN PERSONALITY."
DECON 7/19.67. MATHEWS
BT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0416

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/00

ORIGIN/LOCATION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

POL 15-1 BIAFRA
XR POL 15-4 BIAFRA
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
1		
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
		5
E	P	IO
L	FBO	AID
	S-SC	S/P
	1	1
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
		5
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
33	10	3

A-170
NO.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : ENUGU, KADUNA, LAGOS

JUN 19 3 09 PM 1967

ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : Amconsul IBADAN

DATE: June 16, 1967

SUBJECT: WESTERN STATE: Civil Service Changes

REF :

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

The Western State has made a number of shifts involving civil servants at the Permanent Secretary level. These include the following:

A. A. LADIMEJI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Development Corporation (WNDC) to full-time service (instead of part-time) on the Piper Commission of Inquiry;

H.S.A. ADEDEJI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Finance and Agricultural Credit Corporations to Chairman of the Western Nigeria Development Corporation;

F.A.O. SHOGA, from Permanent Secretary of Works and Transport to Chairman of the Western Nigeria Finance and Agricultural Credit Corporation;

J. M. AKINOLA, from Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Lands and Housing to Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Transport;

G. O. AKINYEMI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Corporation to Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Lands and Housing. END

UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Comment. Mr. Justice PIPER, Chairman of the Piper Probe, indicated to the reporting officer on June 10, that the probe was going so slow

Exempted from automatic decontrol

FORM
4-62 DS-323

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

WCMithoefer, Jr.:mr

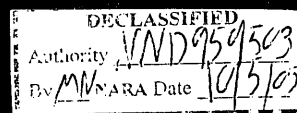
6/14/67

Contents and Classification Approved by:

GBSherry

Clearances:

0417



Ibadan A-170

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2

that he only hoped it could be finished before his vacation next February. The release of Ladimeji may speed up the proceedings somewhat.

According to Mr. P. Warner (expat), Principal Estates Officer in the Western Nigeria Housing Corporation (protect source), the Housing Corporation is currently without a chairman. This leaves four persons of almost equivalent rank, of which he is one, to sort things out amongst themselves.

Mr. Warner says that the current talk in the government civil service is that these changes were due to a policy dispute between Ladimeji and the Military Governor. According to Warner, the Governor expected the WNDC-affiliated companies to start showing a return on their investments. When only £60,000 profit was realized last year, he decided to sack the chairman. At the time of the announcement of the so-called "profit," Mr. Wendall Wong of the Nigerian Shoe and Rubber Company, who has been trying to get \$280,000 from the WNDC for over a year in order to start his factory, told the reporting officer that the WNDC "profit" was merely a bookkeeping operation in order to satisfy the Military Governor. Apparently the juggling act was not sufficiently impressive for the Governor.

SHERRY



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0418

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MN NARA Date 10/5/03

466
POL BIAFRA-NIGERIA
INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State POL 15-1 BIAFRA

3

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Action NNNNVZCZCEIB114TAA570
AF RR RUEHC RUEHCR
DE RUTALS 9775CC 1531730
Info ZNY CCCCC
R 021715Z JUN 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA
SP RUDTKMIXAMEMBASSY LONDON
SC RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
SAH RUTAND/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
L RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
H RUEPJS/DIA WASHDC
EUR RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
NEA ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
LO ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA
P STATE GRNC
USIA BT

002785
1967 JUN 2 PM 4 41

002785
6-2-67

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9775

REF: LAGOS 9722

1. WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT LOUCHHEIM RETURNED FROM

ENUGU YESTERDAY, TALKED WITH EMBOFF THIS MORNING (JUNE 2).
SAID ONITSHA BRIDGE OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC AT 0800Z JUNE 1.
(FYI: ACCORDING REPORT FROM ASABA 1100Z TODAY, BRIDGE
CLOSED ON ASABA SIDE BY ARMY CONTINENT. END FYI.)
LOUCHHEIM DESCRIBED DEPLOYMENT OF EASTERN TROOPS ON ONITSHA
SIDE OF BRIDGE. TROOPS ENTRENCHED, MACHINE GUNS EMPLACED
AT END OF BRIDGE AND IN SIMI-CIRCLE FURTHER BACK ALONG HIGH
GROUND WITH ARC EMBRACING BOTH ENDS OF BRIDGE. HE SAID
DEFENSIVE POSITIONS HAVE EXCELLENT FIELD OF FIRE ON BRIDGE.
EASTERN ARMY ALSO PREPARING ALL-BACK POSITIONS BEHIND
SEMI-CIRCLE.

2. BRIDGE BLOCKED BY LARGE ROAD BUILDING MACHINES: OPEN
PARTLY DURING DAY TO PERMIT TRAFFIC FLOW BOTH WAYS, CLOSED
AT NIGHT. HE SAW THIRTY CASES DYNAMITE NEAR BRIDGE AND
WATCHED SOLDIERS DETONATE SMALL CHARGE OF DYNAMITE NEAR ROAD
IN WHAT APPEARED BE PRACTICE EXERCISE.

3. ON ASABA SIDE OF BRIDGE THERE ONLY FOUR "TIRED LOOKING"

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2

0419

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959/503
By MNARA Date 10/5/03

ORIGIN/ACTION			DEPARTMENT OF STATE		POL 15-1 BIAFRA XR POL 15-4 BIAFRA FOR RM USE ONLY	
AIRGRAM						
A-170			LIMITED OFFICIAL USE		RECEIVED	
			DEPARTMENT OF STATE		JUN 19 3 09 PM 1967	
			ANALYSIS BRANCH		HANDLING INDICATOR	
TO : Department of State						
INFO : ENUGU, KADUNA, LAGOS						
FROM : Amconsul IBADAN			DATE: June 16, 1967			
SUBJECT : WESTERN STATE: Civil Service Changes						
REF :						
<u>BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED</u>						
<p>The Western State has made a number of shifts involving civil servants at the Permanent Secretary level. These include the following:</p> <p>A. A. LADIMEJI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Development Corporation (WNDC) to full-time service (instead of part-time) on the Piper Commission of Inquiry;</p> <p>H.S.A. ADEDEJI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Finance and Agricultural Credit Corporations to Chairman of the Western Nigeria Development Corporation;</p> <p>F.A.O. SHOGA, from Permanent Secretary of Works and Transport to Chairman of the Western Nigeria Finance and Agricultural Credit Corporation;</p> <p>J. M. AKINOLA, from Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Lands and Housing to Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Transport;</p> <p>G. O. AKINYEMI, from Chairman of the Western Nigeria Corporation to Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Lands and Housing. <u>END</u></p> <p><u>UNCLASSIFIED</u></p> <p><u>BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE</u></p> <p>Comment. Mr. Justice PIPER, Chairman of the Piper Probe, indicated to the reporting officer on June 10, that the probe was going so slow</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exempted from automatic decontrol</p>						
FORM 4-62 DS-323			LIMITED OFFICIAL USE		FOR DEPT. USE ONLY	
			In		Out	
Drafted by: WCM:thoefer, Jr.:mr 6/14/67			Contents and Classification Approved by: GBSherry			
Clearances:						

0420

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: VND 954503

By: MNARA Date: 10/5/03

Ibadan A-170

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2

that he only hoped it could be finished before his vacation next February. The release of Ladimeji may speed up the proceedings somewhat.

According to Mr. P. Warner (expat), Principal Estates Officer in the Western Nigeria Housing Corporation (protect source), the Housing Corporation is currently without a chairman. This leaves four persons of almost equivalent rank, of which he is one, to sort things out amongst themselves.

Mr. Warner says that the current talk in the government civil service is that these changes were due to a policy dispute between Ladimeji and the Military Governor. According to Warner, the Governor expected the WNDC-affiliated companies to start showing a return on their investments. When only \$60,000 profit was realized last year, he decided to sack the chairman. At the time of the announcement of the so-called "profit," Mr. Wendall Wong of the Nigerian Shoe and Rubber Company, who has been trying to get \$280,000 from the WNDC for over a year in order to start his factory, told the reporting officer that the WNDC "profit" was merely a bookkeeping operation in order to satisfy the Military Governor. Apparently the juggling act was not sufficiently impressive for the Governor.

SHERRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0421

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/03